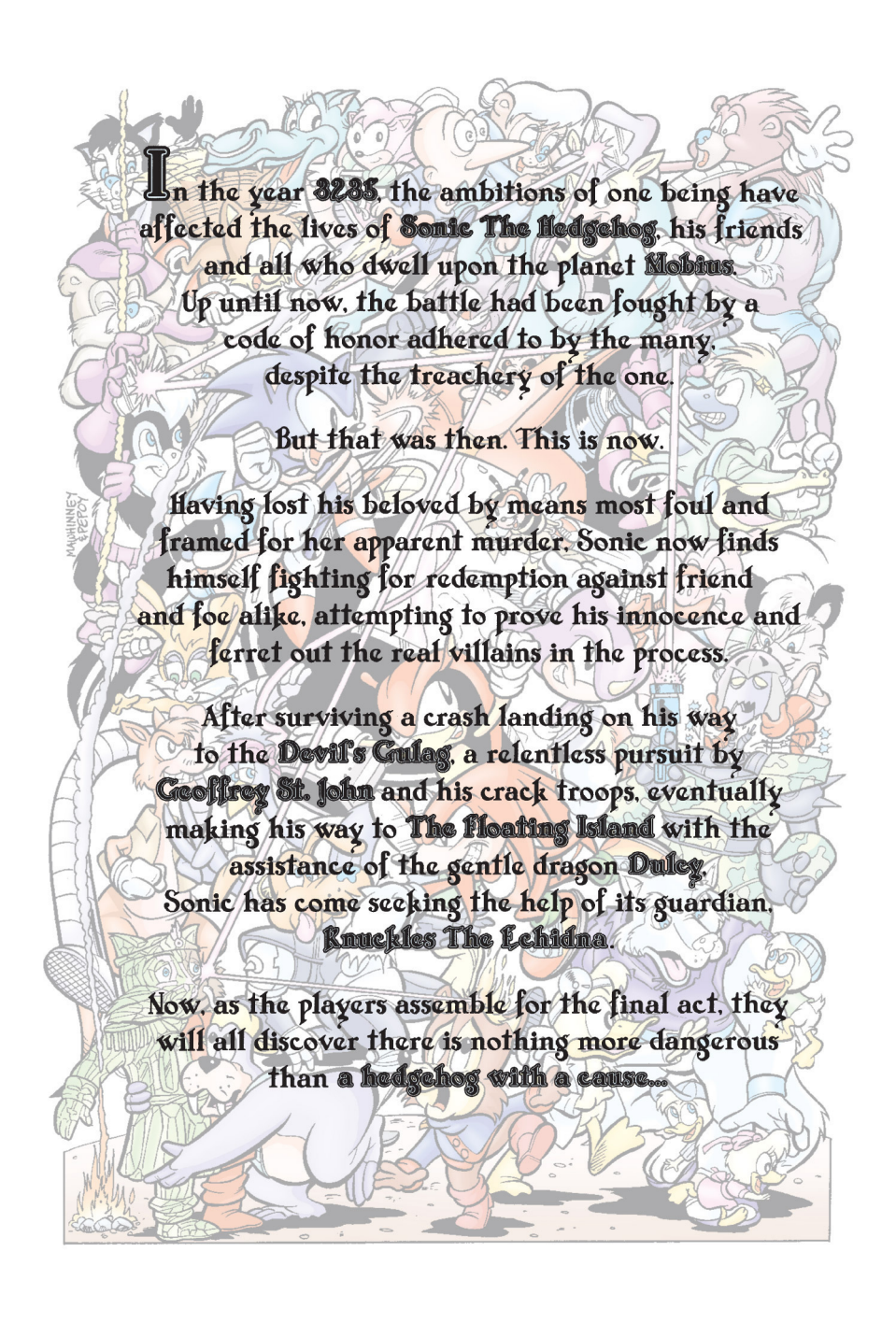
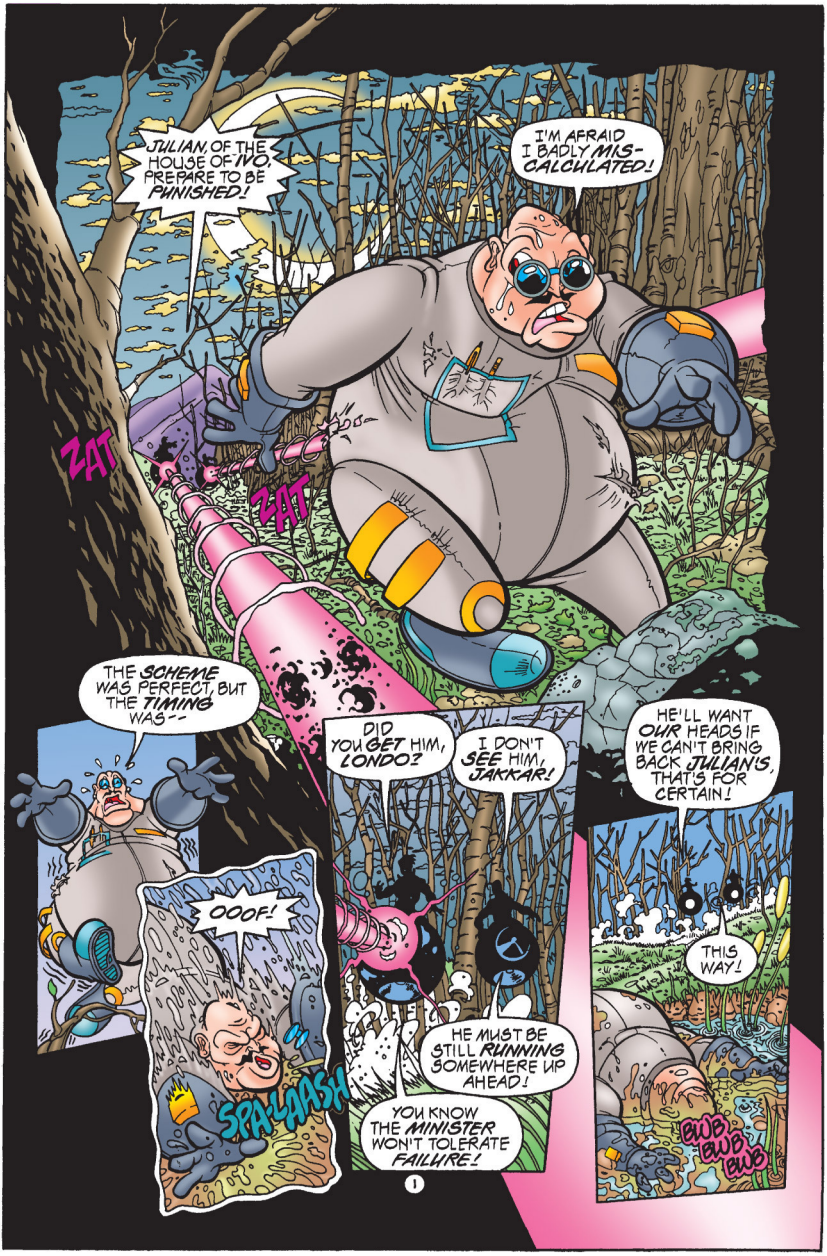
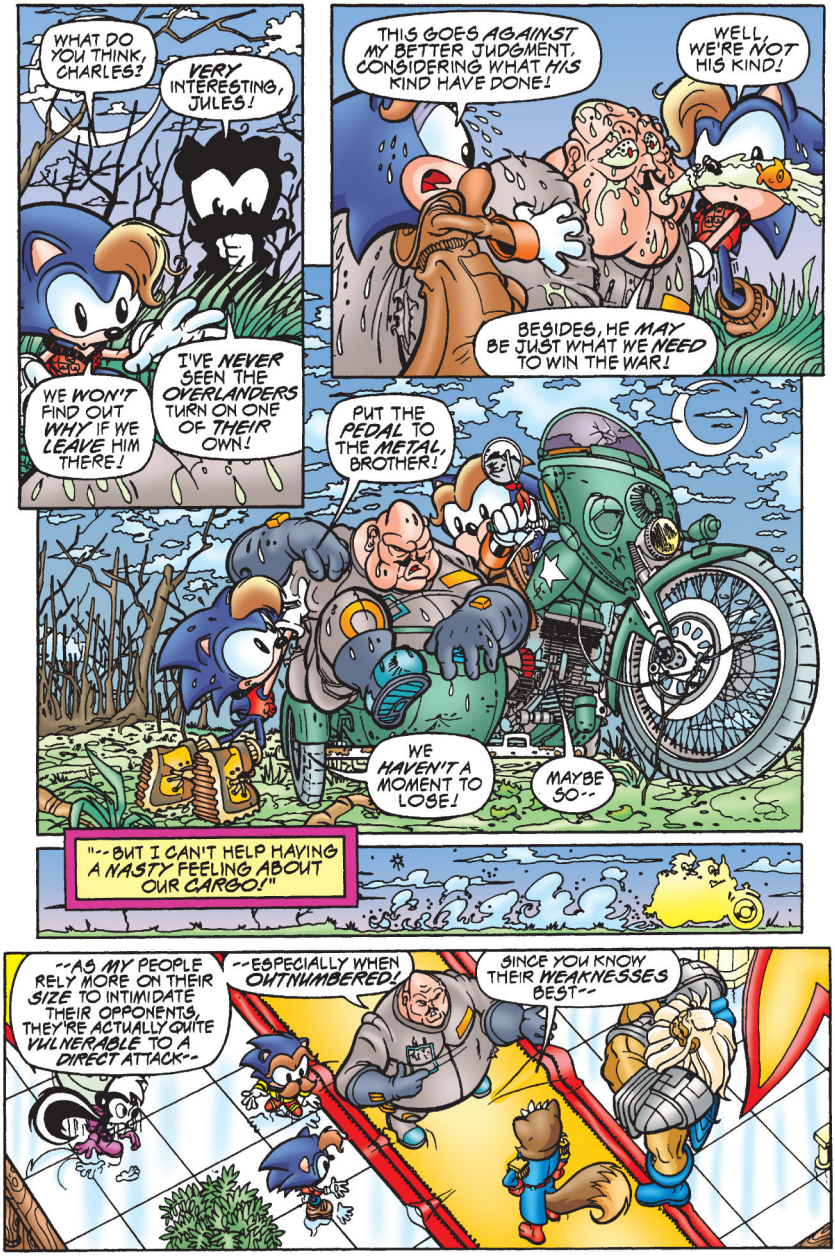
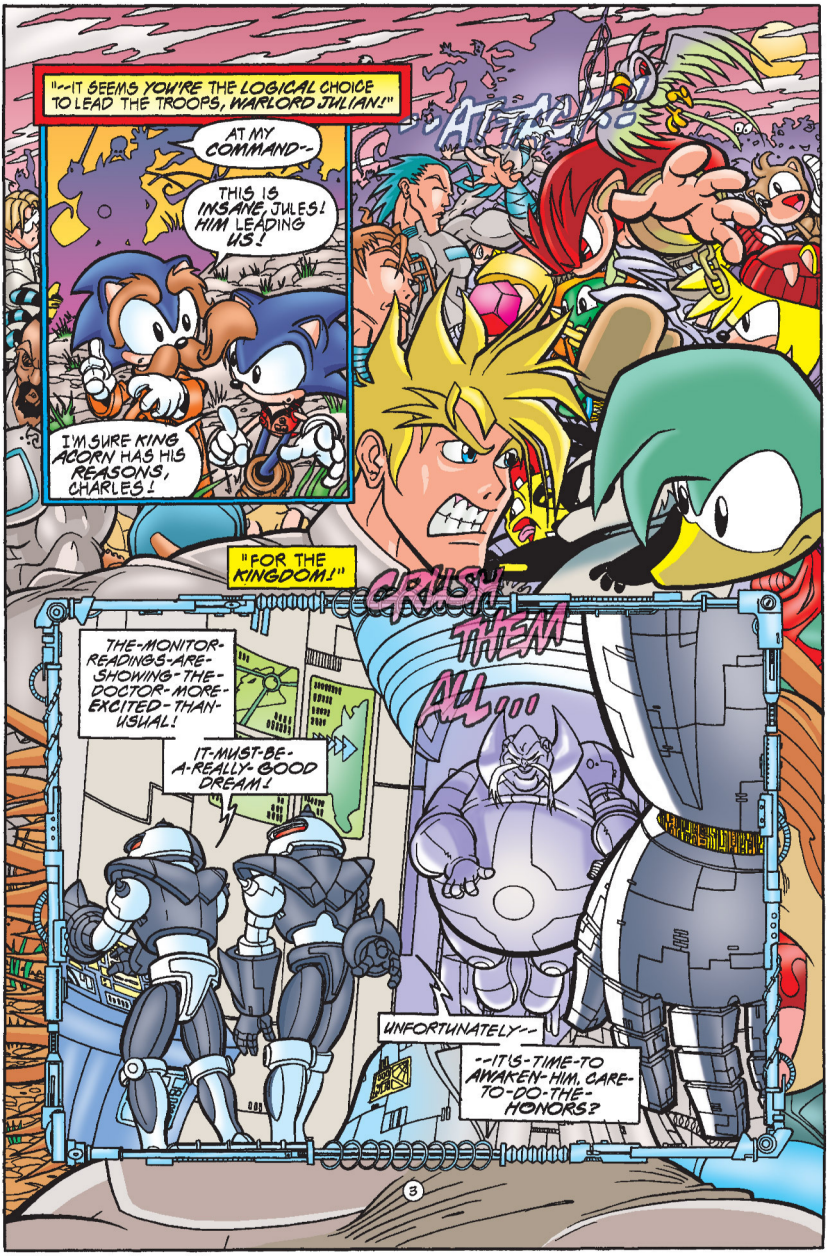
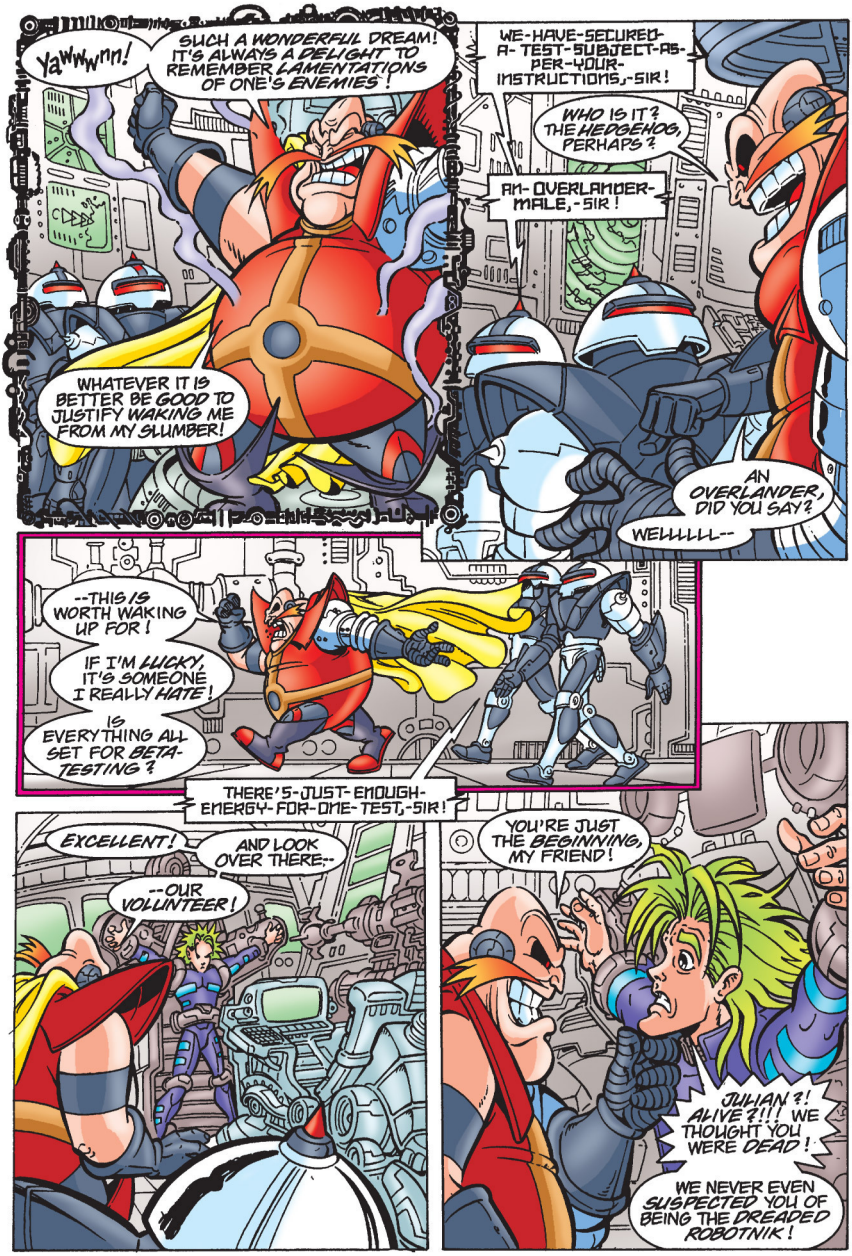
Archie
ADVENTURE SERIES
NO.50 SEPT.
US $1.50 CAN $1.65
SONIC™
THE HEDGEHOG
50
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
SPAZ/PENDERS
ENDGAME
PART 4 OF 4


In the year 3235, the ambitions of one being have affected the lives of Sonic The Hedgehog, his friends and all who dwell upon the planet Mobius.
Up until now, the battle had been fought by a code of honor adhered to by the many, despite the treachery of the one.
But that was then. This is now.
Having lost his beloved by means most foul and framed for her apparent murder, Sonic now finds himself fighting for redemption against friend and foe alike, attempting to prove his innocence and ferret out the real villains in the process.
After surviving a crash landing on his way to the Devil's Gulag, a relentless pursuit by Geoffrey St. John and his crack troops, eventually making his way to The Floating Island with the assistance of the gentle dragon Duley.
Sonic has come seeking the help of its guardian, Knuckles The Echidna.
Now, as the players assemble for the final act, they will all discover there is nothing more dangerous than a hedgehog with a cause...

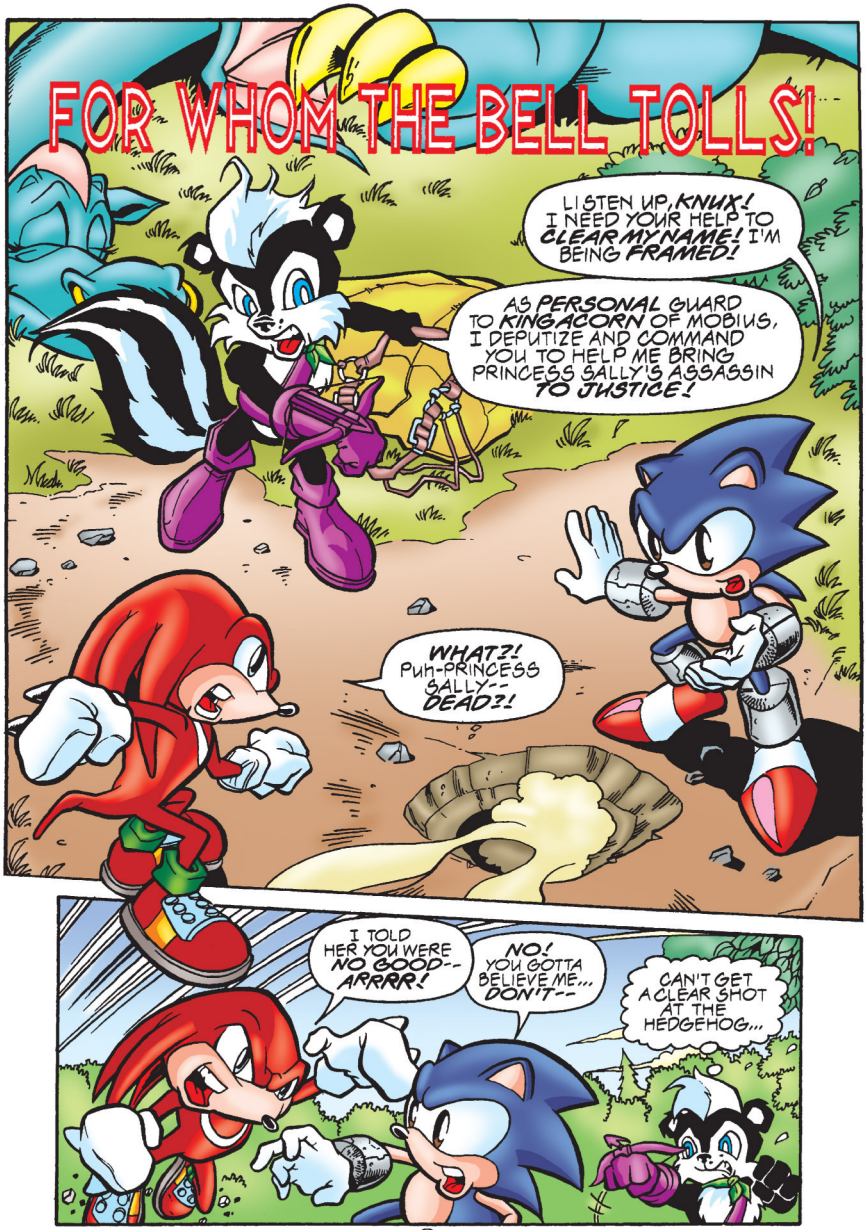

JULIAN, OF THE HOUSE OF IVO, PREPARE TO BE PUNISHED!
I'M AFRAID I BADLY MIS-CALCULATED!
ZAT
ZAT
THE SCHEME WAS PERFECT, BUT THE TIMING WAS--
OOOF!
SPLAAASH
DID YOU GET HIM, LONDO?
I DON'T SEE HIM, JAKKAR!
HE MUST BE STILL RUNNING SOMEWHERE UP AHEAD!
YOU KNOW THE MINISTER WON'T TOLERATE FAILURE!
HE'LL WANT OUR HEADS IF WE CAN'T BRING BACK JULIAN'S, THAT'S FOR CERTAIN!
THIS WAY!
ENDS
ENDS
ENDS
1

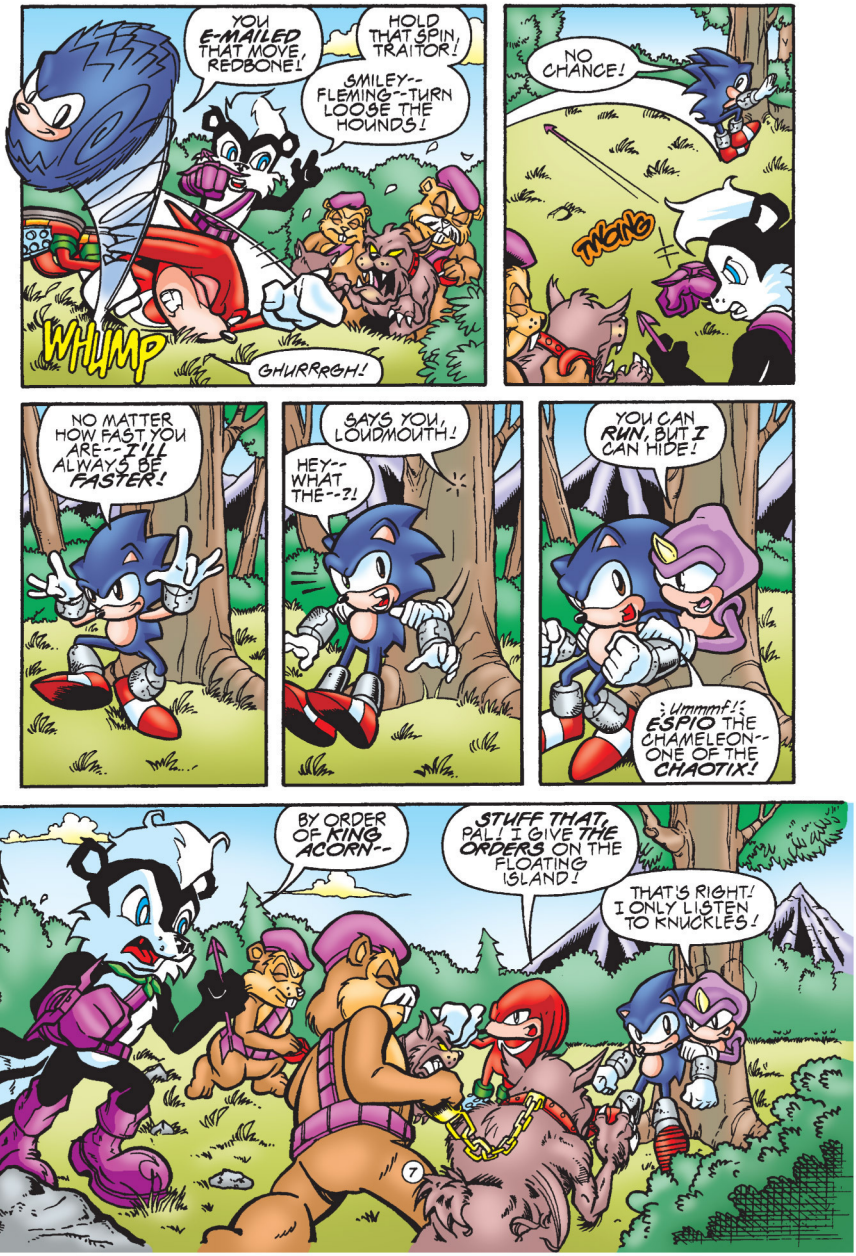

WHAT DO YOU THINK, CHARLES?
VERY INTERESTING, JULES!
WE WON'T FIND OUT WHY IF WE LEAVE HIM THERE!
I'VE NEVER SEEN THE OVERLANDERS TURN ON ONE OF THEIR OWN!
THIS GOES AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGMENT, CONSIDERING WHAT HIS KIND HAVE DONE!
WELL, WE'RE NOT HIS KIND!
BESIDES, HE MAY BE JUST WHAT WE NEED TO WIN THE WAR!
PUT THE PEDAL TO THE METAL, BROTHER!
WE HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE!
MAYBE SO--
"--BUT I CAN'T HELP HAVING A NASTY FEELING ABOUT OUR CARGO!"
--AS MY PEOPLE RELY MORE ON THEIR SIZE TO INTIMIDATE THEIR OPPONENTS, THEY'RE ACTUALLY QUITE VULNERABLE TO A DIRECT ATTACK--
--ESPECIALLY WHEN OUTNUMBERED!
SINCE YOU KNOW THEIR WEAKNESSES BEST--

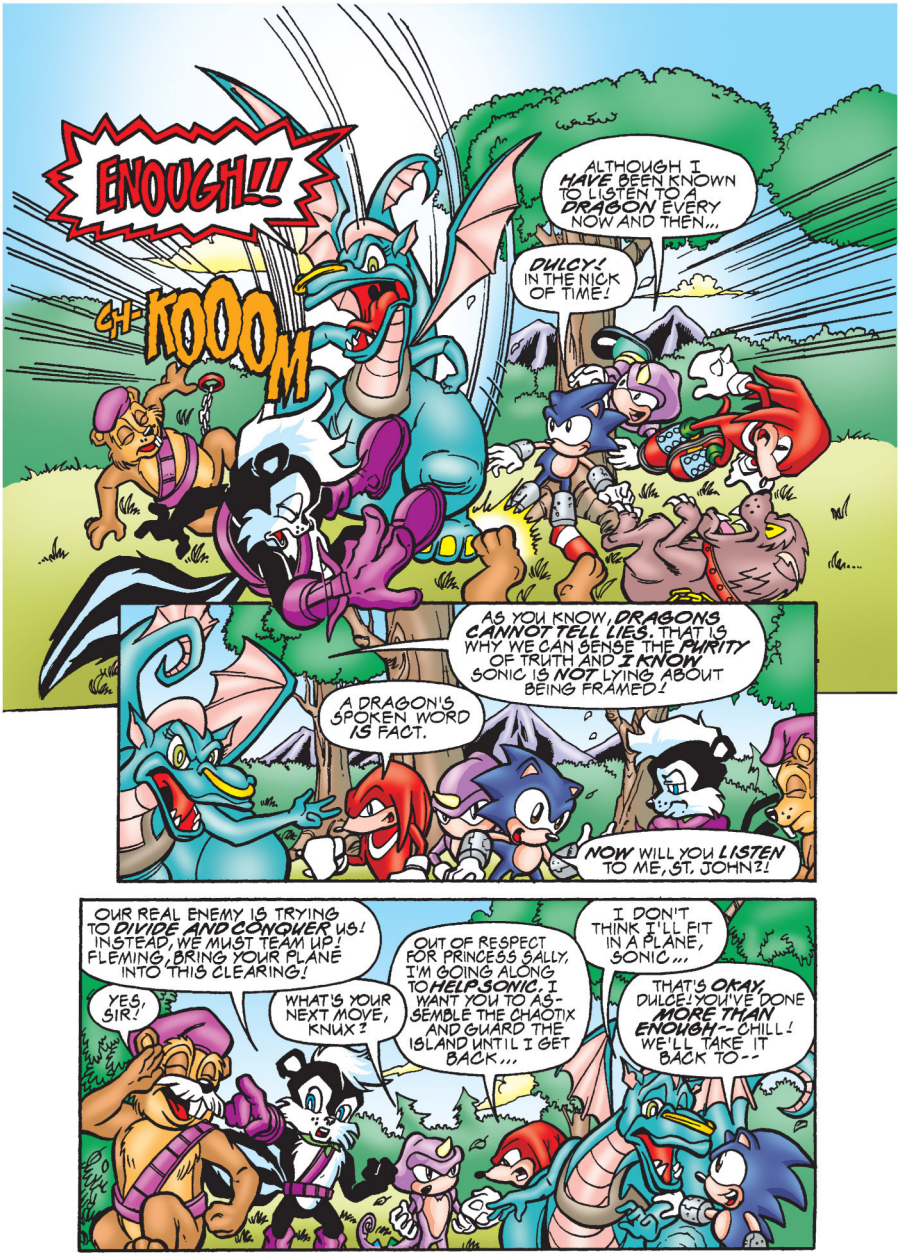

"--IT SEEMS YOU'RE THE LOGICAL CHOICE TO LEAD THE TROOPS, WARLORD JULIAN!"
AT MY COMMAND--
THIS IS INSANE, JULES! HIM LEADING US!
I'M SURE KING ACORN HAS HIS REASONS, CHARLES!
"FOR THE KINGDOM!"
CRUSH THEM ALL...
THE-MONITOR-READINGS-ARE-SHOWING-THE-DOCTOR-MORE-EXCITED-THAN-USUAL!
IT-MUST-BE-A-REALLY-GOOD DREAM!
UNFORTUNATELY--
--IT'S-TIME-TO AWAKEN-HIM. CARE-TO-DO-THE-HONORS?
3

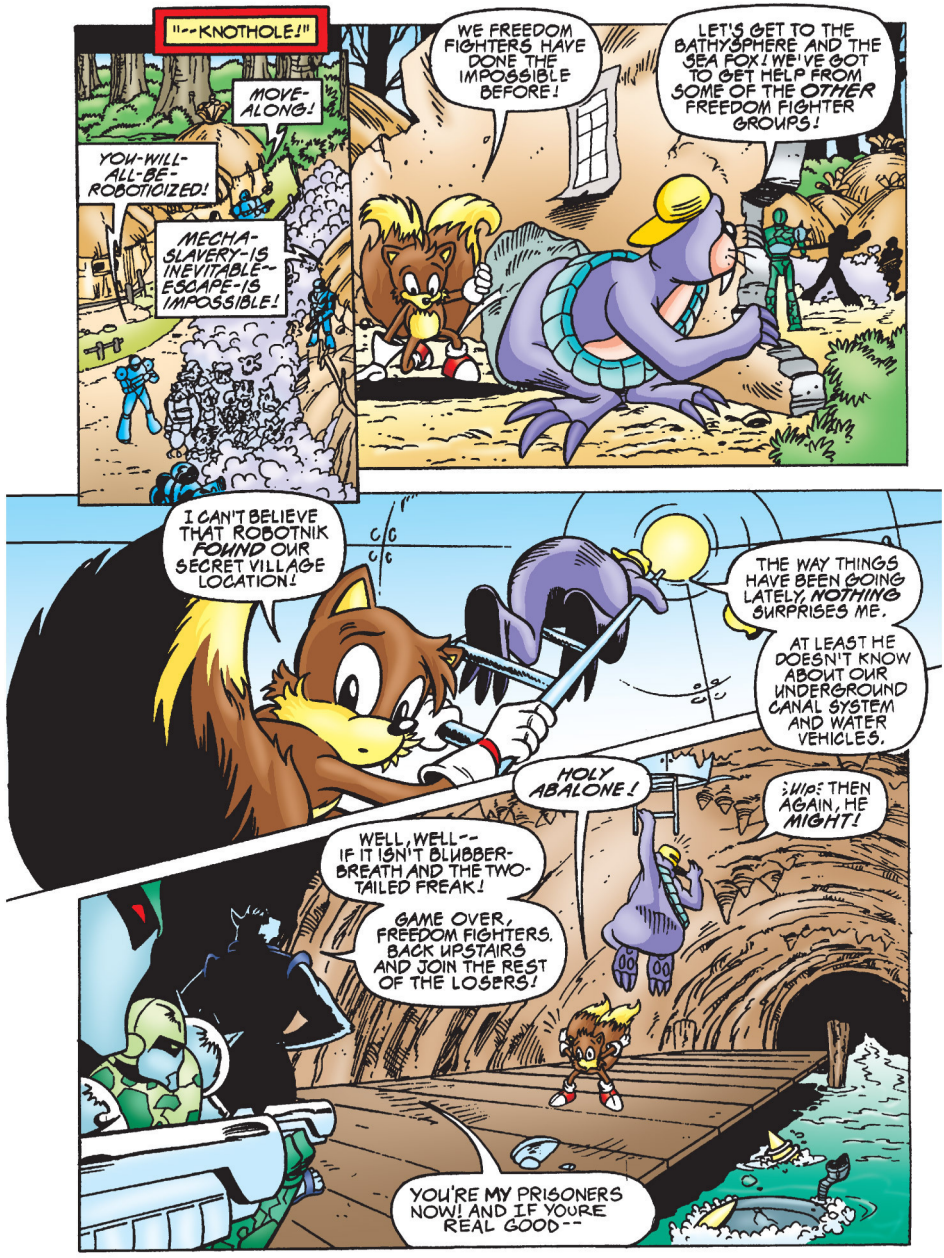

Yaᵂʷʷᵐⁿ!
SUCH A WONDERFUL DREAM! IT'S ALWAYS A DELIGHT TO REMEMBER LAMENTATIONS OF ONE'S ENEMIES!
WHATEVER IT IS BETTER BE GOOD TO JUSTIFY WAKING ME FROM MY SLUMBER!
WE-HAVE-SECURED-A-TEST-SUBJECT-AS-PER-YOUR-INSTRUCTIONS,-SIR!
WHO IS IT? THE HEDGEHOG, PERHAPS?
AH-OVERLANDER-MALE,-SIR!
AN OVERLANDER, DID YOU SAY?
WELLLLL--
--THIS IS WORTH WAKING UP FOR!
IF I'M LUCKY, IT'S SOMEONE I REALLY HATE!
IS EVERYTHING ALL SET FOR BETA-TESTING?
THERE'S-JUST-ENOUGH-ENERGY-FOR-ONE-TEST,-SIR!
EXCELLENT!
AND LOOK OVER THERE--
--OUR VOLUNTEER!
YOU'RE JUST THE BEGINNING, MY FRIEND!
JULIAN?! ALIVE?!!! WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!
WE NEVER EVEN SUSPECTED YOU OF BEING THE DREADED ROBOTNIK!

EVEN THOUGH MY FAME HAS SOMEWHAT PRECEDED ME--
--AS YOU CAN PLAINLY SEE, THE REPORTS OF MY DEMISE WERE SOMEWHAT EXAGGERATED!
UNHAPPILY FOR YOU--
--I INTEND TO PROVE THERE IS WORSE THAN DEATH!
WAIT!!!
CAN'T WE TALK THIS OVER?!!!
PHHRAAAA
ZZZT!
WHILE I ENJOY WATCHING SOMEONE GROVEL AND BEG--
--I'M AFRAID OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OUTWEIGH PERSONAL PLEASURES!
NOOOOOOO
EUREKA! I'VE DONE IT AGAIN!
ANOTHER RESOUNDING TRIUMPH ON MY PART!
ONCE THE SHIPMENT FROM DOWNUNDA ARRIVES, WE'LL BE ABLE TO UNLEASH MY MOST DEVASTATING WEAPON YET, AND THEN--
--MOBIUS WILL BE MINE!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, UNCLE!
WE'LL SEE WHO HAS THE LAST LAUGH, YET!

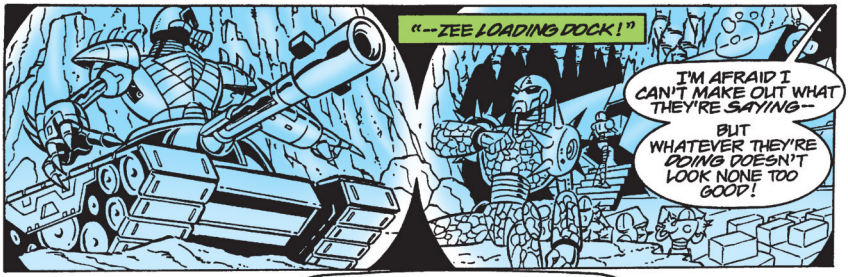

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS!
LISTEN UP, KNUX! I NEED YOUR HELP TO CLEAR MY NAME! I'M BEING FRAMED!
AS PERSONAL GUARD TO KING ACORN OF MOBIUS, I DEPUTIZE AND COMMAND YOU TO HELP ME BRING PRINCESS SALLY'S ASSASSIN TO JUSTICE!
WHAT?! PUH-PRINCESS SALLY-- DEAD?!
I TOLD HER YOU WERE NO GOOD-- ARRRR!
NO! YOU GOTTA BELIEVE ME... DON'T--
CAN'T GET A CLEAR SHOT AT THE HEDGEHOG...

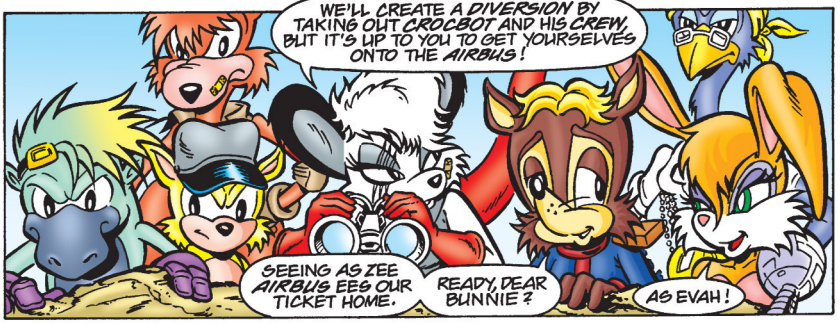

YOU E-MAILED THAT MOVE, REDBONE!
HOLD THAT SPIN, TRAITOR!
SMILEY--FLEMING--TURN LOOSE THE HOUNDS!
WHUMP
GHURRRGH!
NO CHANCE!
TWANG
NO MATTER HOW FAST YOU ARE--I'LL ALWAYS BE FASTER!
SAYS YOU, LOUDMOUTH!
HEY--WHAT THE--?!
YOU CAN RUN, BUT I CAN HIDE!
Ummmf!: ESPIO THE CHAMELEON--ONE OF THE CHAOTIX!
BY ORDER OF KING ACORN--
STUFF THAT, PAL! I GIVE THE ORDERS ON THE FLOATING ISLAND!
THAT'S RIGHT! I ONLY LISTEN TO KNUCKLES!
7


ENOUGH!!
GH-KOOOM
ALTHOUGH I HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO LISTEN TO A DRAGON EVERY NOW AND THEN...
DULCY! IN THE NICK OF TIME!
AS YOU KNOW, DRAGONS CANNOT TELL LIES. THAT IS WHY WE CAN SENSE THE PURITY OF TRUTH AND I KNOW SONIC IS NOT LYING ABOUT BEING FRAMED!
A DRAGON'S SPOKEN WORD IS FACT.
NOW WILL YOU LISTEN TO ME, ST. JOHN?!
OUR REAL ENEMY IS TRYING TO DIVIDE AND CONQUER US! INSTEAD, WE MUST TEAM UP! FLEMING, BRING YOUR PLANE INTO THIS CLEARING!
YES, SIR!
WHAT'S YOUR NEXT MOVE, KNUX?
OUT OF RESPECT FOR PRINCESS SALLY, I'M GOING ALONG TO HELP SONIC. I WANT YOU TO ASSEMBLE THE CHAOTIX AND GUARD THE ISLAND UNTIL I GET BACK...
I DON'T THINK I'LL FIT IN A PLANE, SONIC...
THAT'S OKAY, DULCE! YOU'VE DONE MORE THAN ENOUGH-- CHILL! WE'LL TAKE IT BACK TO--


"--KNOTHOLE!"
MOVE-ALONG!
YOU-WILL-ALL-BE-ROBOTICIZED!
MECHA-SLAVERY-IS INEVITABLE--ESCAPE-IS IMPOSSIBLE!
WE FREEDOM FIGHTERS HAVE DONE THE IMPOSSIBLE BEFORE!
LET'S GET TO THE BATHYSPHERE AND THE SEA FOX! WE'VE GOT TO GET HELP FROM SOME OF THE OTHER FREEDOM FIGHTER GROUPS!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT ROBOTNIK FOUND OUR SECRET VILLAGE LOCATION!
THE WAY THINGS HAVE BEEN GOING LATELY, NOTHING SURPRISES ME.
AT LEAST HE DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT OUR UNDERGROUND CANAL SYSTEM AND WATER VEHICLES.
HOLY ABALONE!
;W/O: THEN AGAIN, HE MIGHT!
WELL, WELL-- IF IT ISN'T BLUBBER-BREATH AND THE TWO-TAILED FREAK!
GAME OVER, FREEDOM FIGHTERS. BACK UPSTAIRS AND JOIN THE REST OF THE LOSERS!
YOU'RE MY PRISONERS NOW! AND IF YOURE REAL GOOD--

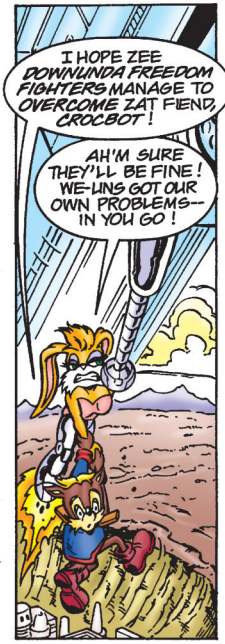
"--I'LL JUST SHIP YOUR CARCASS OFF TO THE SLAVE LABOR CAMPS ON DOWNUNDA!"
BUNNIE--NO! DON'T FOOL WEETH ZEE COLLAIRE!
HOLD STILL-- IF AH CAN JUST--
CHK-
DOOM!
CELL-GUARD-CALLING-CROCBOT-KNOTHOLE-PRISONER'S-COLLAR-HAS-BEEN-DETONATED,-DESTROYING-ALL-FOUR-INMATES.
TOO BAD. I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO TORTURING THEM. I STILL HAVE THE OTHER THREE LEFT!
VERY WELL-- REPORT TO THE LOADING DOCK!
AT-ONCE.
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
SOUNDS LIKE OUR TEAMMATES ARE STILL ALIVE!
WE BETTER FIND THEM-- AND FAST!
AFTER ZAT, I SUGGEST WE MAKE OUR WAY TO--

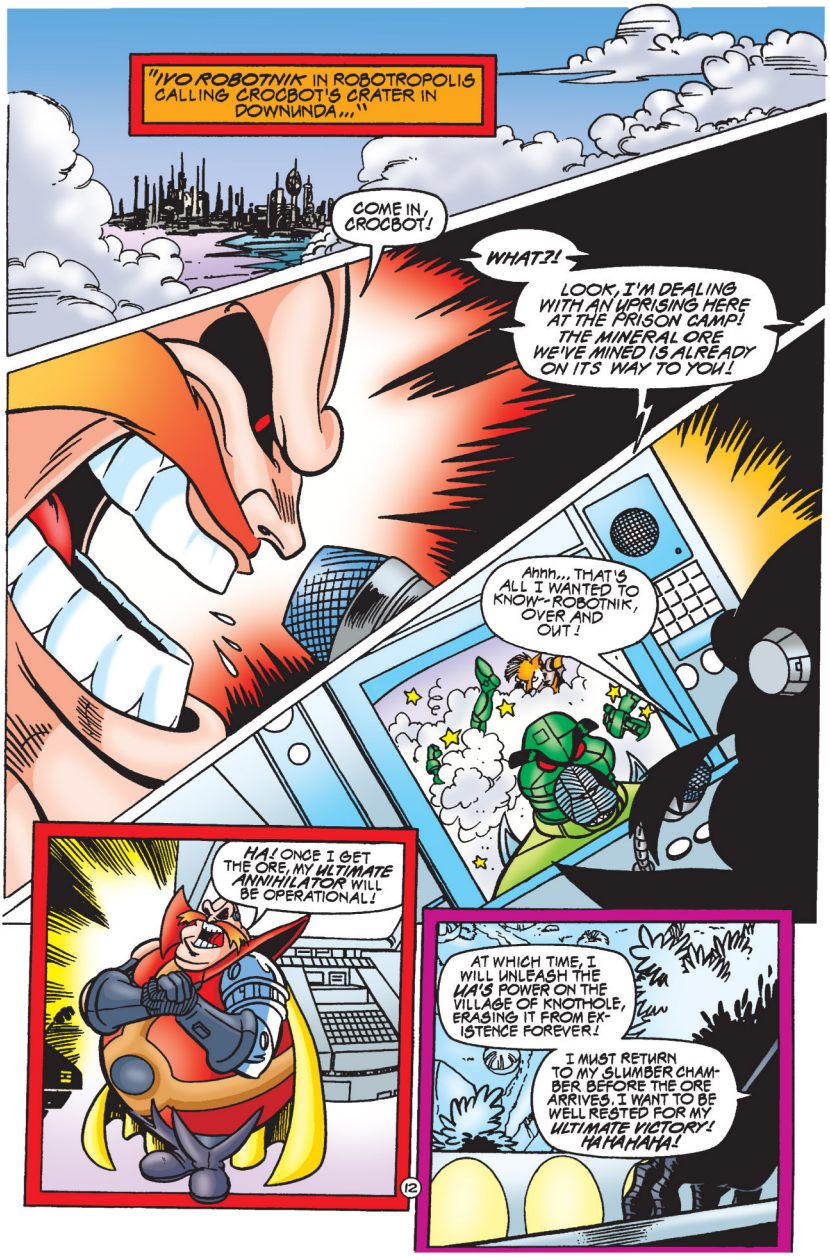

"--ZEE LOADING DOCK!"
I'M AFRAID I CAN'T MAKE OUT WHAT THEY'RE SAYING--
BUT WHATEVER THEY'RE DOING DOESN'T LOOK NONE TOO GOOD!

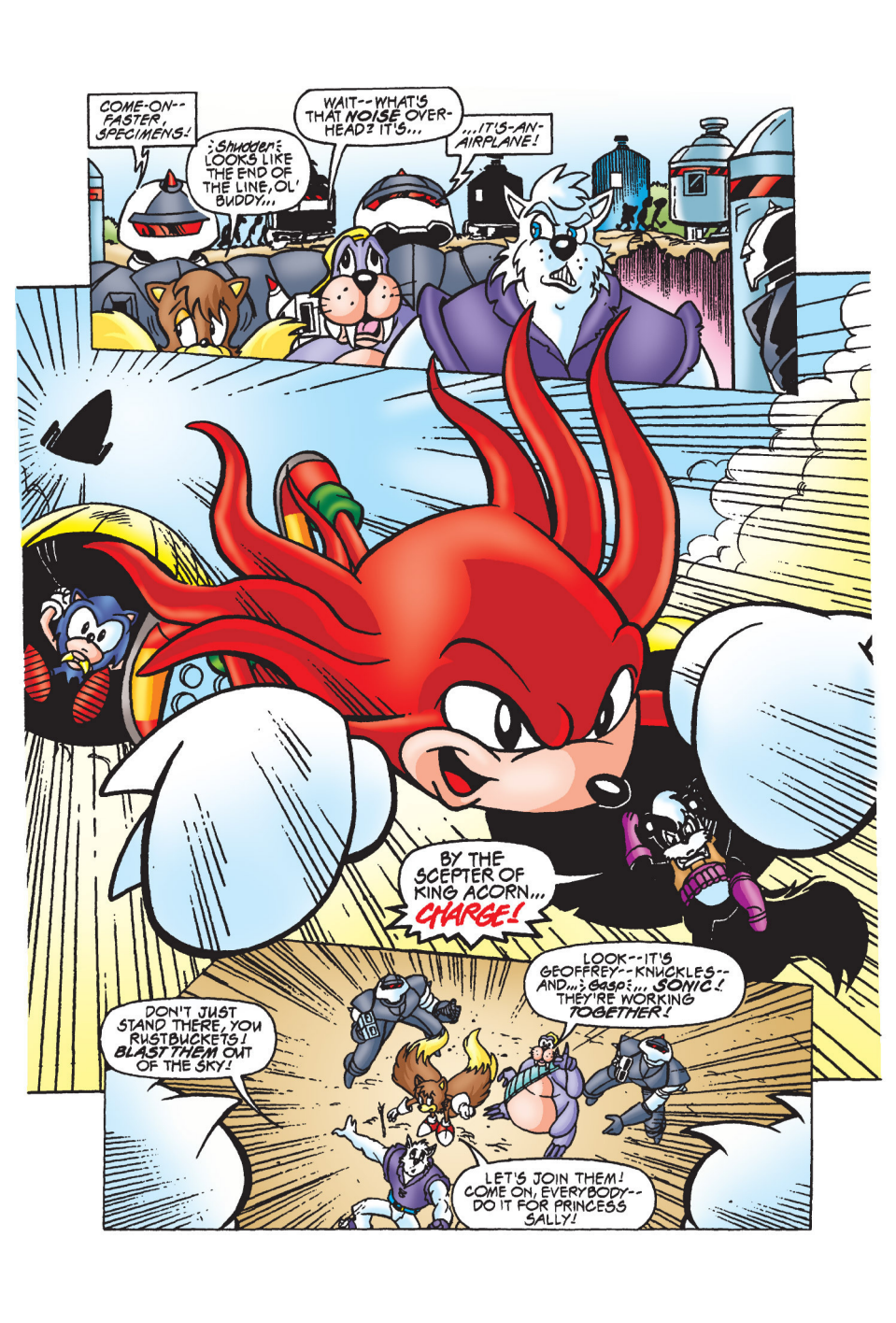

WE'LL CREATE A DIVERSION BY TAKING OUT CROCBOT AND HIS CREW, BUT IT'S UP TO YOU TO GET YOURSELVES ONTO THE AIRBUS!
SEEING AS ZEE AIRBUS EEG OUR TICKET HOME.
READY, DEAR BUNNIE?
AS EVAH!

HEY THERE, TALL-GREEN-AND-GRUESOME!
WE HAVE A CIRCUIT OR TWO TO PICK WITH YOU.
≥GASP!≤ THAT VOICE! IT CAN'T BE--

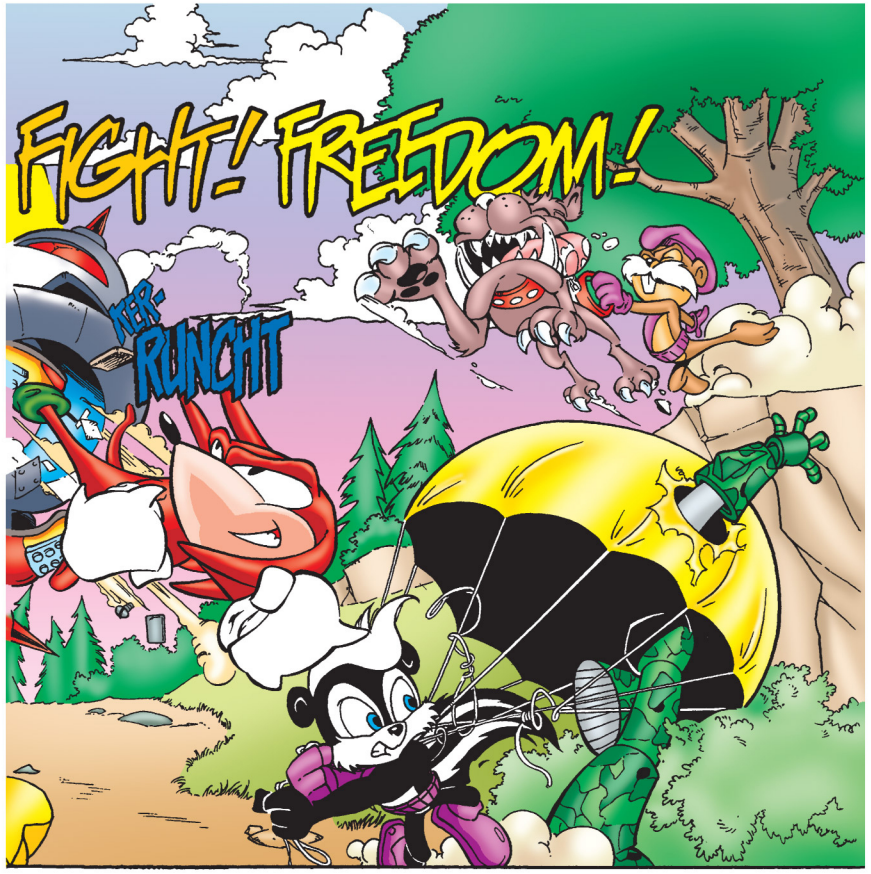
BUT IT IS!
≥SIGH≤ WHATEVER HAPPENED TO 'PEACE AND LOVE?'
NO PROBLEM-- WE LOVE TO SMASH THESE 'BOTS TO PIECES!
BEEP! BEEP!

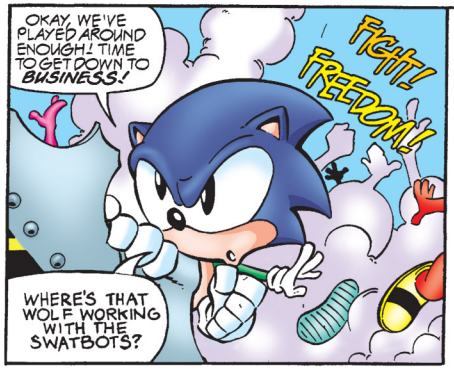

I HOPE ZEE DOWNLINDA FREEDOM FIGHTERS MANAGE TO OVERCOME ZAT FIEND, CROCBOT!
AH'M SURE THEY'LL BE FINE! WE-UNS GOT OUR OWN PROBLEMS-- IN YOU GO!


"IVO ROBOTNIK IN ROBOTROPOLIS CALLING CROCBOT'S CRATER IN DOWNUNDA..."
COME IN, CROCBOT!
WHAT?!
LOOK, I'M DEALING WITH AN UPRISING HERE AT THE PRISON CAMP! THE MINERAL ORE WE'VE MINED IS ALREADY ON ITS WAY TO YOU!
Ahhh... THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO KNOW--ROBOTNIK, OVER AND OUT!
HA! ONCE I GET THE ORE, MY ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR WILL BE OPERATIONAL!
AT WHICH TIME, I WILL UNLEASH THE HA'S POWER ON THE VILLAGE OF KNOTHOLE, ERASING IT FROM EXISTENCE FOREVER!
I MUST RETURN TO MY SLUMBER CHAMBER BEFORE THE ORE ARRIVES. I WANT TO BE WELL RESTED FOR MY ULTIMATE VICTORY! HAHAHAHA!

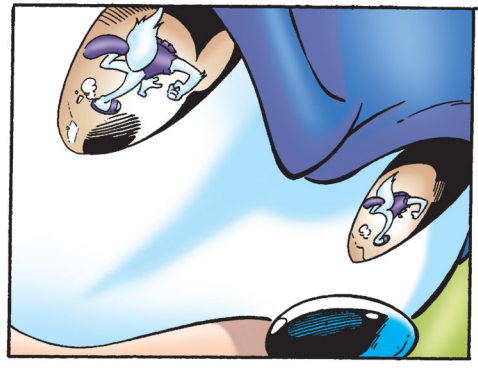

COME-ON--FASTER, SPECIMENS!
:Shudder: LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE LINE, OL' BUDDY...
WAIT--WHAT'S THAT NOISE OVERHEAD? IT'S...
...IT'S-AN-AIRPLANE!
BY THE SCEPTER OF KING ACORN... CHARGE!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, YOU RUSTBUCKETS! BLAST THEM OUT OF THE SKY!
LOOK--IT'S GEOFFREY--KNUCKLES--AND...:GASP:... SONIC! THEY'RE WORKING TOGETHER!
LET'S JOIN THEM! COME ON, EVERYBODY--DO IT FOR PRINCESS SALLY!

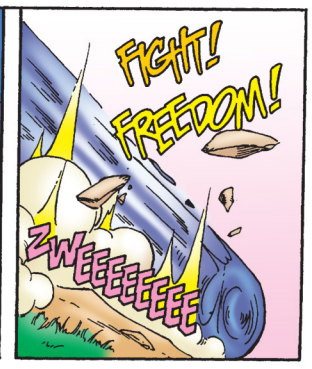
FIGHT! FREEDOM!
WHIRRR
BRAKTT

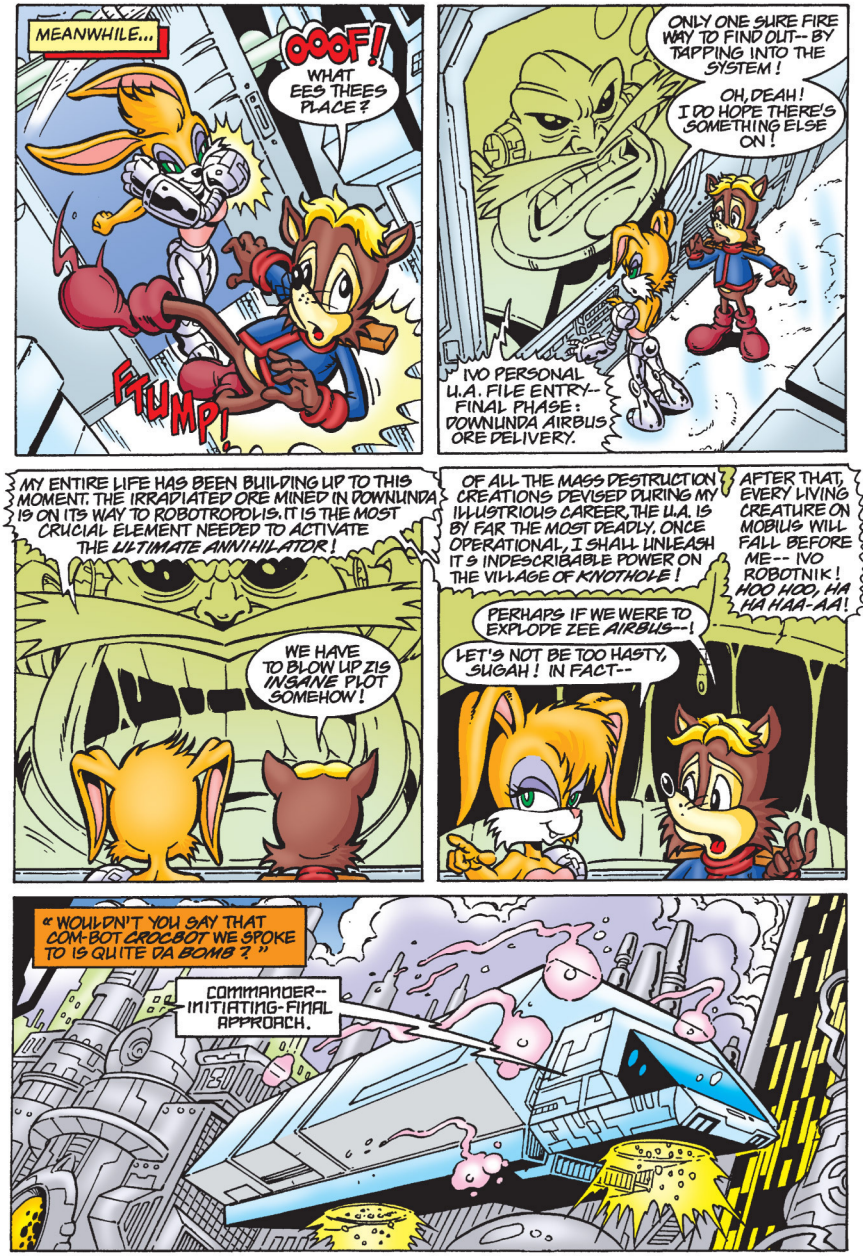

FIGHT! FREEDOM!
KER-
RUNCHT


OKAY, WE'VE PLAYED AROUND ENOUGH! TIME TO GET DOWN TO BUSINESS!
FIGHT! FREEDOM!
WHERE'S THAT WOLF WORKING WITH THE SWATBOTS?

YOU!
WHO? ME?!
FIGHT!
FREEDOM!

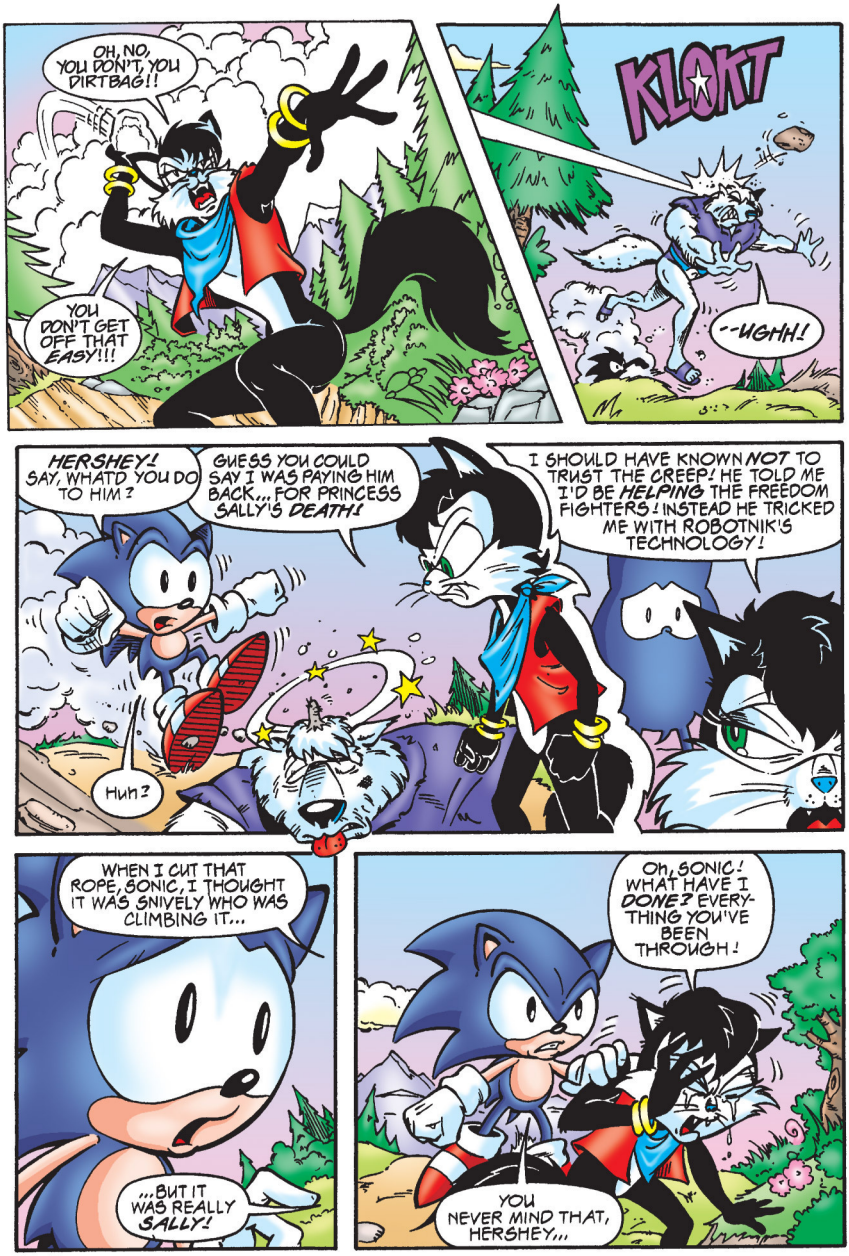


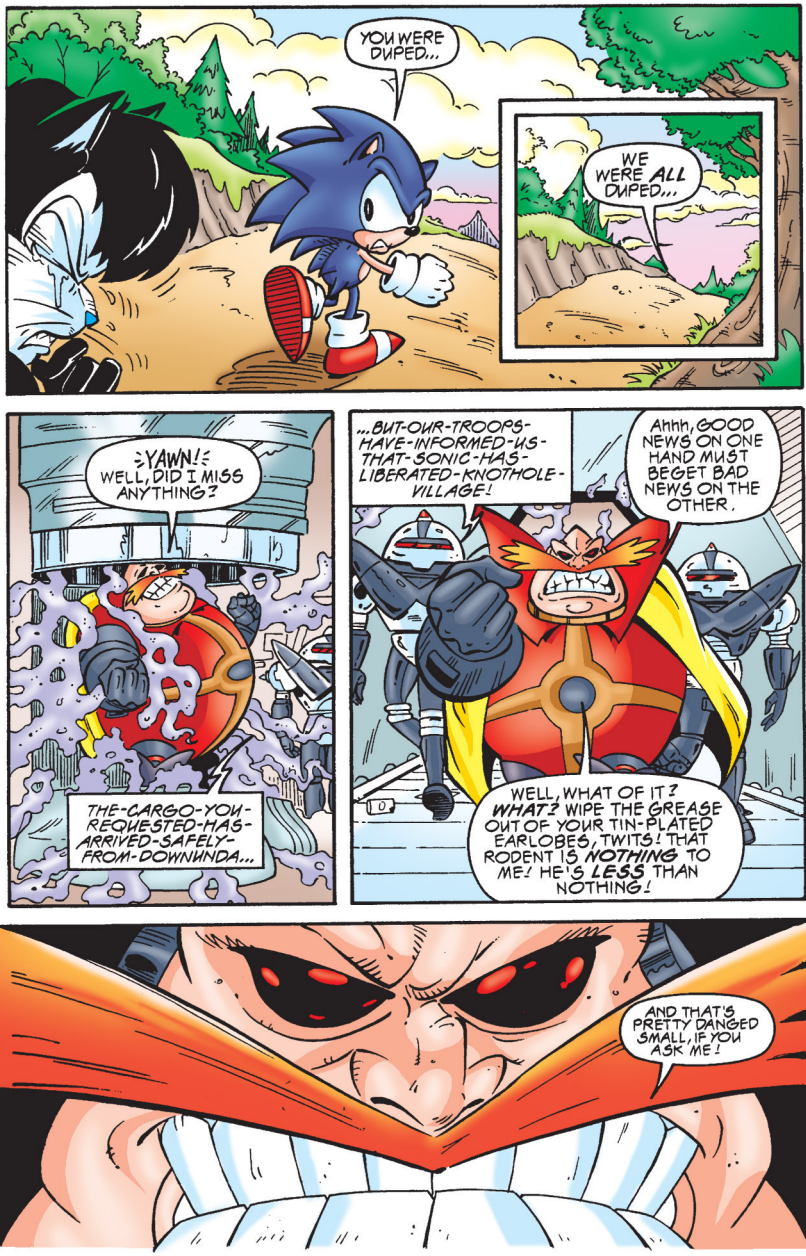

FIGHT!
FREEDOM!
ZWEEEEEEEEEEE

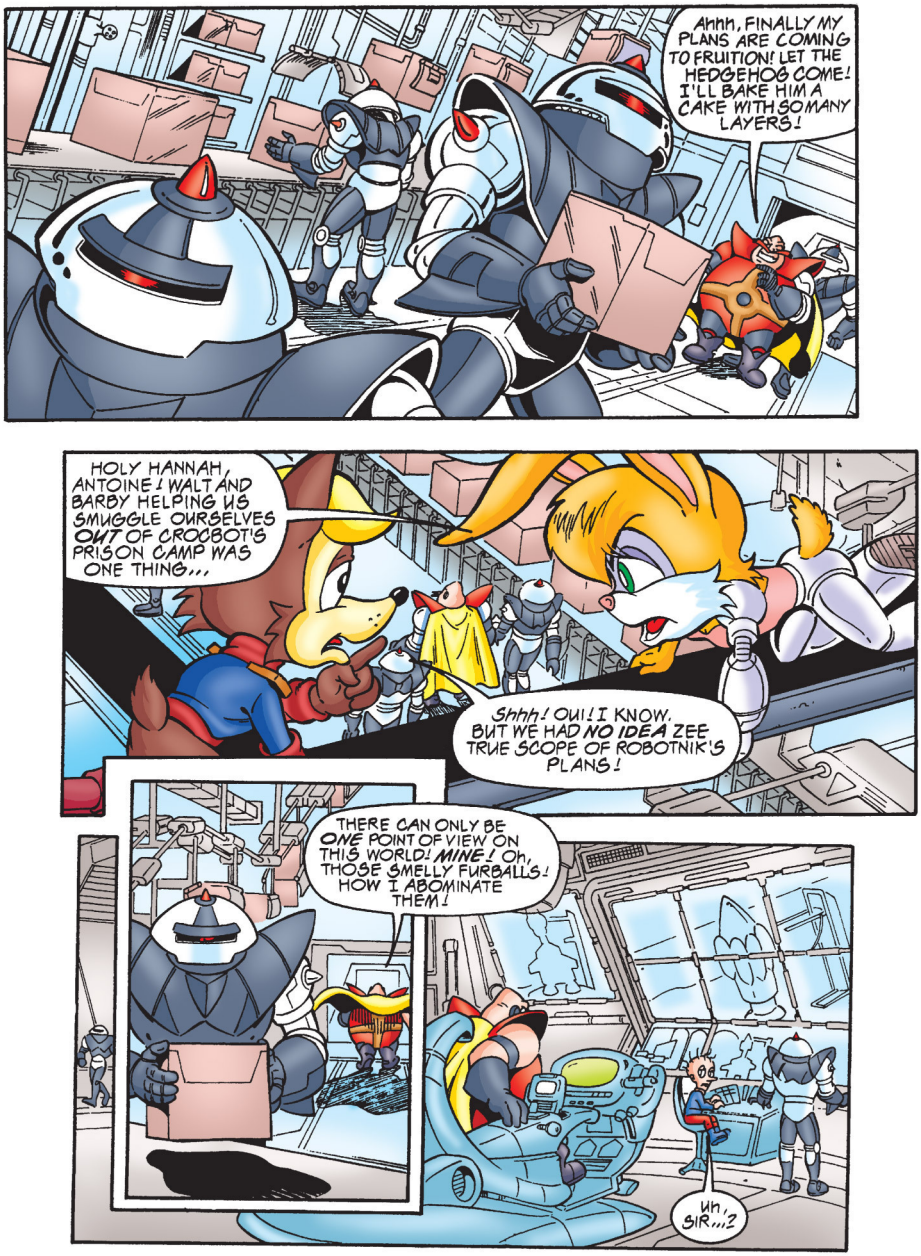

MEANWHILE...
OOOF!
WHAT EES THEES PLACE?
FTUMP!
ONLY ONE SURE FIRE WAY TO FIND OUT-- BY TAPPING INTO THE SYSTEM!
OH, DEAH! I DO HOPE THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE ON!
IVO PERSONAL U.A. FILE ENTRY-- FINAL PHASE: DOWNUNDA AIRBUS ORE DELIVERY.
MY ENTIRE LIFE HAS BEEN BUILDING UP TO THIS MOMENT. THE IRRADIATED ORE MINED IN DOWNUNDA IS ON ITS WAY TO ROBOTROPOLIS. IT IS THE MOST CRUCIAL ELEMENT NEEDED TO ACTIVATE THE ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR!
WE HAVE TO BLOW UP ZIS INSANE PLOT SOMEHOW!
OF ALL THE MASS DESTRUCTION CREATIONS DEVISED DURING MY ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER, THE U.A. IS BY FAR THE MOST DEADLY. ONCE OPERATIONAL, I SHALL UNLEASH IT'S INDESCRIBABLE POWER ON THE VILLAGE OF KNOTHOLE!
AFTER THAT, EVERY LIVING CREATURE ON MOBIUS WILL FALL BEFORE ME-- IVO ROBOTNIK! HOO HOO, HA HA HAA-AA!
PERHAPS IF WE WERE TO EXPLODE ZEE AIRBUS--!
LET'S NOT BE TOO HASTY, SUGAH! IN FACT--
"WOULDN'T YOU SAY THAT COM-BOT CROCBOT WE SPOKE TO IS QUITE DA BOMB?"
COMMANDER-- INITIATING FINAL APPROACH.

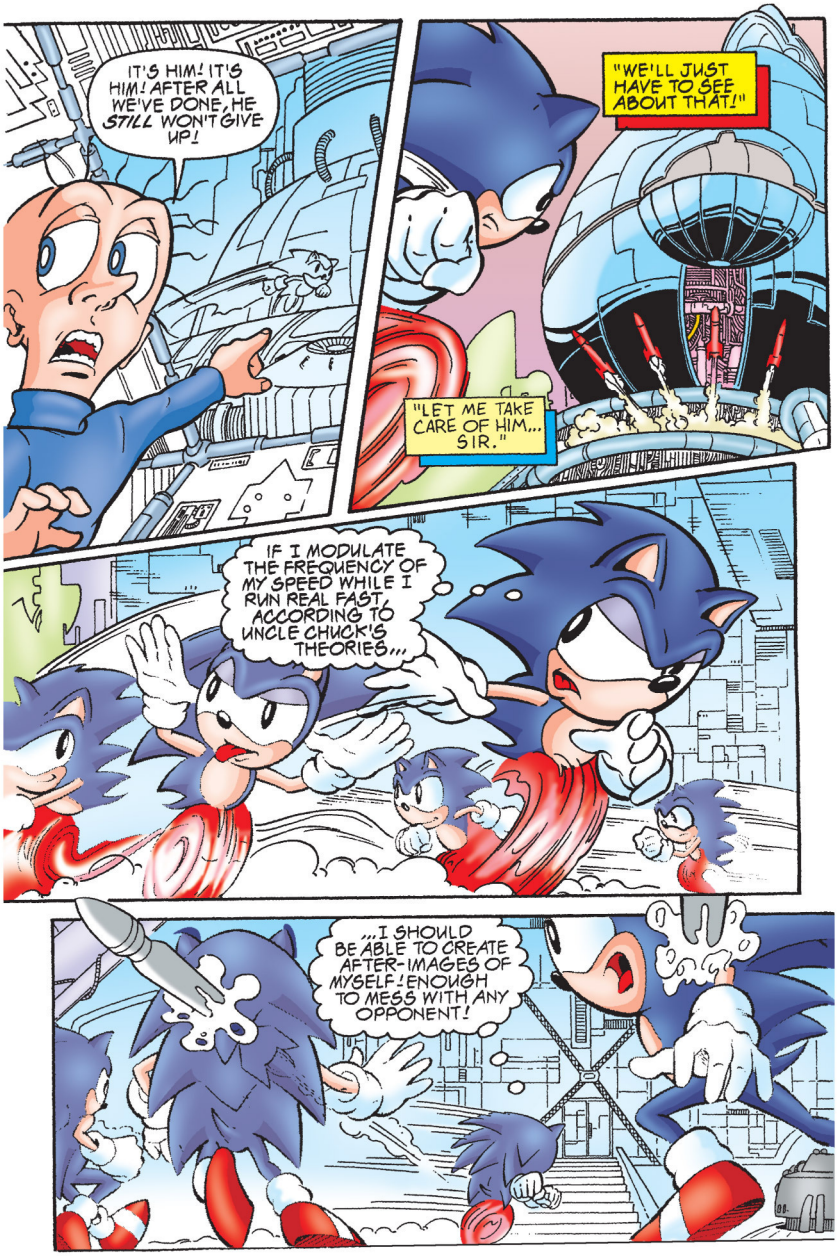
"PROCEED."
HEY, DRAGO!! OVER HERE!!
HUH? WHO SAID THAT?!
WELL, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!
I SEE SOMETHING COMING UP FAST, NOT TOO FAR OFF IN THE DISTANCE!
HOW DO I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU?
--WHO CAN YOU TRUST?
SO YOU FINALLY CAME TO YOUR SENSES, EH, BABE?
WHAT GIRL WOULDN'T PREFER A WINNER--
WHY, DRAGO, IF YOU CAN'T TRUST ME--
17

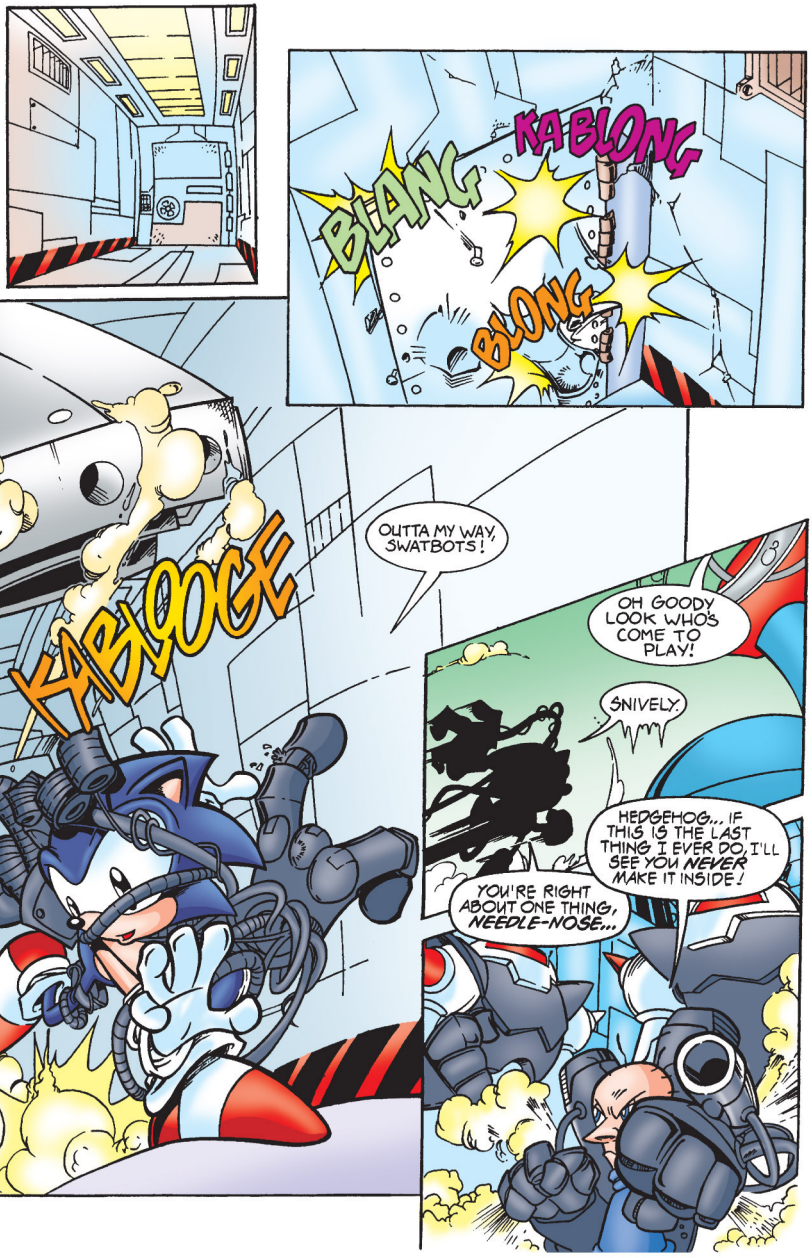
--INSTEAD OF A LOSER LIKE YOU!!
MEE-OWW!
OOW!!!
YOU WIT--
OOF!!
BAM
BAM
BAM
DON'T YOU WORRY, DRAGO!
I'M FAR FROM THROUGH WITH YOU!
I LOVED YOU, DRAGO! I'D HAVE DONE ANYTHING FOR YOU!!!
AND FOR YOU TO USE ME LIKE THAT--
YOU'RE THE WORST PIECE OF SLIME IT'S BEEN MY MISFORTUNE TO KNOW!!
WELL, BUSTER, HERE'S WHERE YOU GET YOURS!!
BAM
HERSHEY!! NOOOOO!!

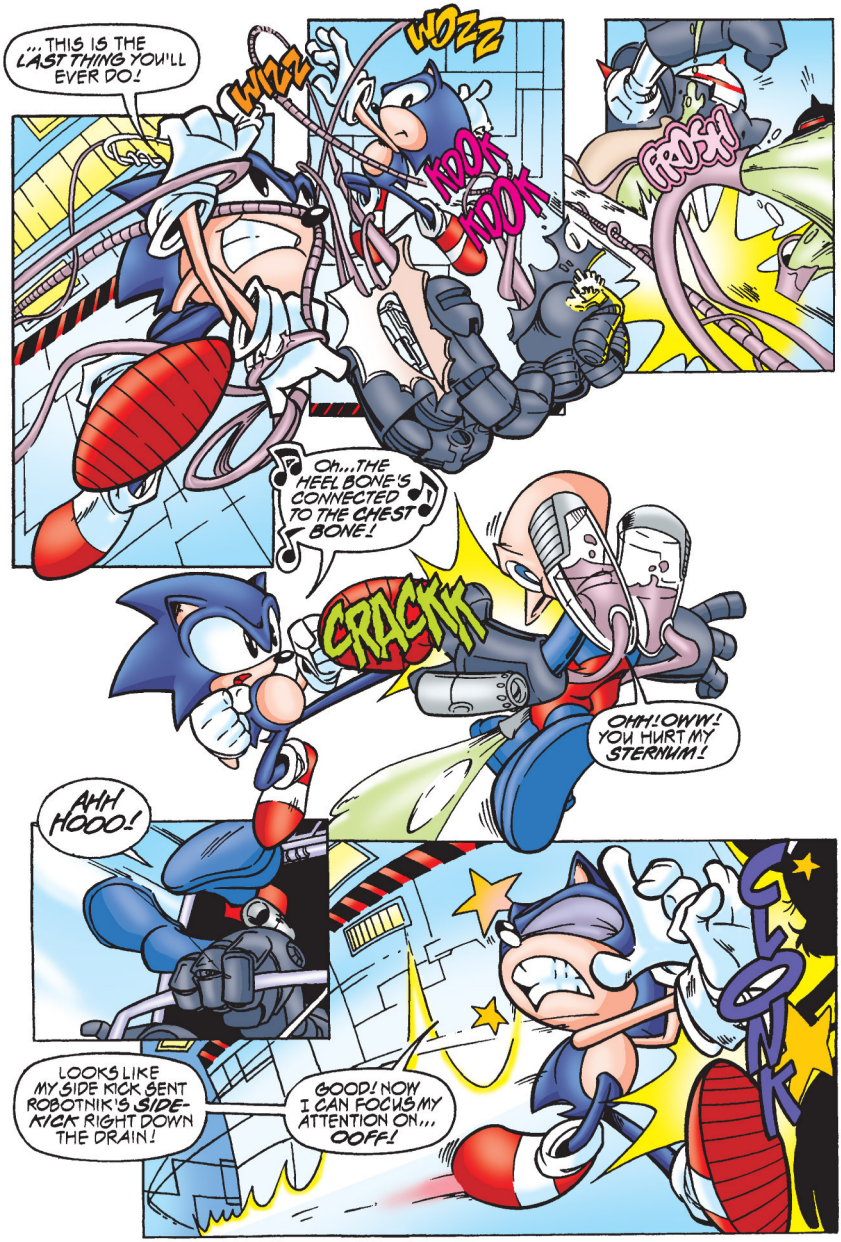

OH, NO, YOU DON'T, YOU DIRTBAG!!
YOU DON'T GET OFF THAT EASY!!!
KLAKT
--UGHH!
HERSHEY! SAY, WHATD YOU DO TO HIM?
GUESS YOU COULD SAY I WAS PAYING HIM BACK... FOR PRINCESS SALLY'S DEATH!
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN NOT TO TRUST THE CREEP! HE TOLD ME I'D BE HELPING THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS! INSTEAD HE TRICKED ME WITH ROBOTNIK'S TECHNOLOGY!
Huh?
WHEN I CUT THAT ROPE, SONIC, I THOUGHT IT WAS SNIVELY WHO WAS CLIMBING IT...
...BUT IT WAS REALLY SALLY!
Oh, SONIC! WHAT HAVE I DONE? EVERYTHING YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH!
YOU NEVER MIND THAT, HERSHEY...

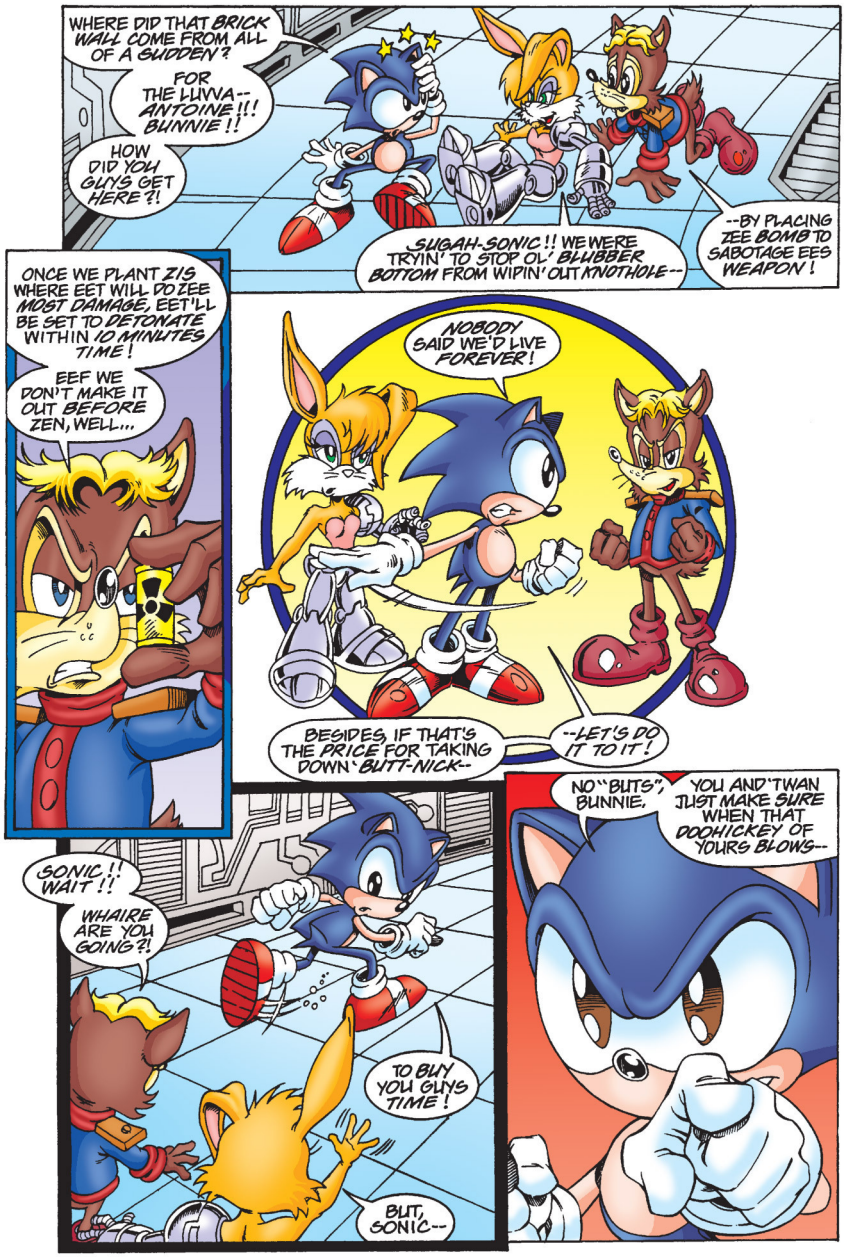

YOU WERE DUPED...
WE WERE ALL DUPED...
:YAWN!: WELL, DID I MISS ANYTHING?
THE-CARGO-YOU-REQUESTED-HAS-ARRIVED-SAFELY-FROM-DOWNUNDA...
...BUT-OUR-TROOPS-HAVE-INFORMED-US-THAT-SONIC-HAS-LIBERATED-KNOTHOLE-VILLAGE!
Ahhh, GOOD NEWS ON ONE HAND MUST BEGET BAD NEWS ON THE OTHER.
WELL, WHAT OF IT? WHAT? WIPE THE GREASE OUT OF YOUR TIN-PLATED EARLOBES, TWITS! THAT RODENT IS NOTHING TO ME! HE'S LESS THAN NOTHING!
AND THAT'S PRETTY DANGED SMALL, IF YOU ASK ME!

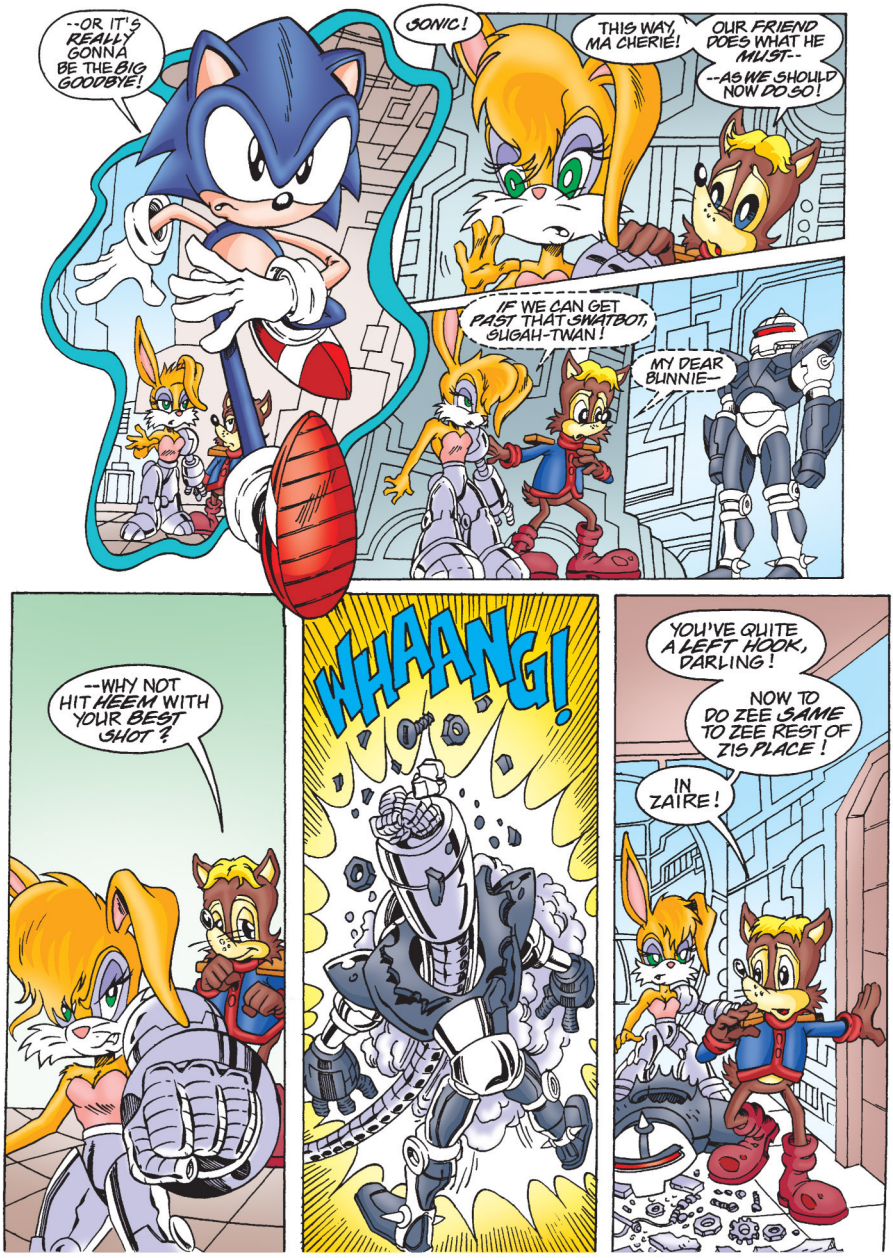

AHHH, FINALLY MY PLANS ARE COMING TO FRUITION! LET THE HEDGEHOG COME! I'LL BAKE HIM A CAKE WITH SO MANY LAYERS!
HOLY HANNAH, ANTOINE! WALT AND BARBY HELPING US SMUGGLE OURSELVES OUT OF CROCBOT'S PRISON CAMP WAS ONE THING...
Shhh! OUI! I KNOW. BUT WE HAD NO IDEA ZEE TRUE SCOPE OF ROBOTNIK'S PLANS!
THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE POINT OF VIEW ON THIS WORLD! MINE! Oh, THOSE SMELLY FURBALLS! HOW I ABOMINATE THEM!
Uh, SIR...?

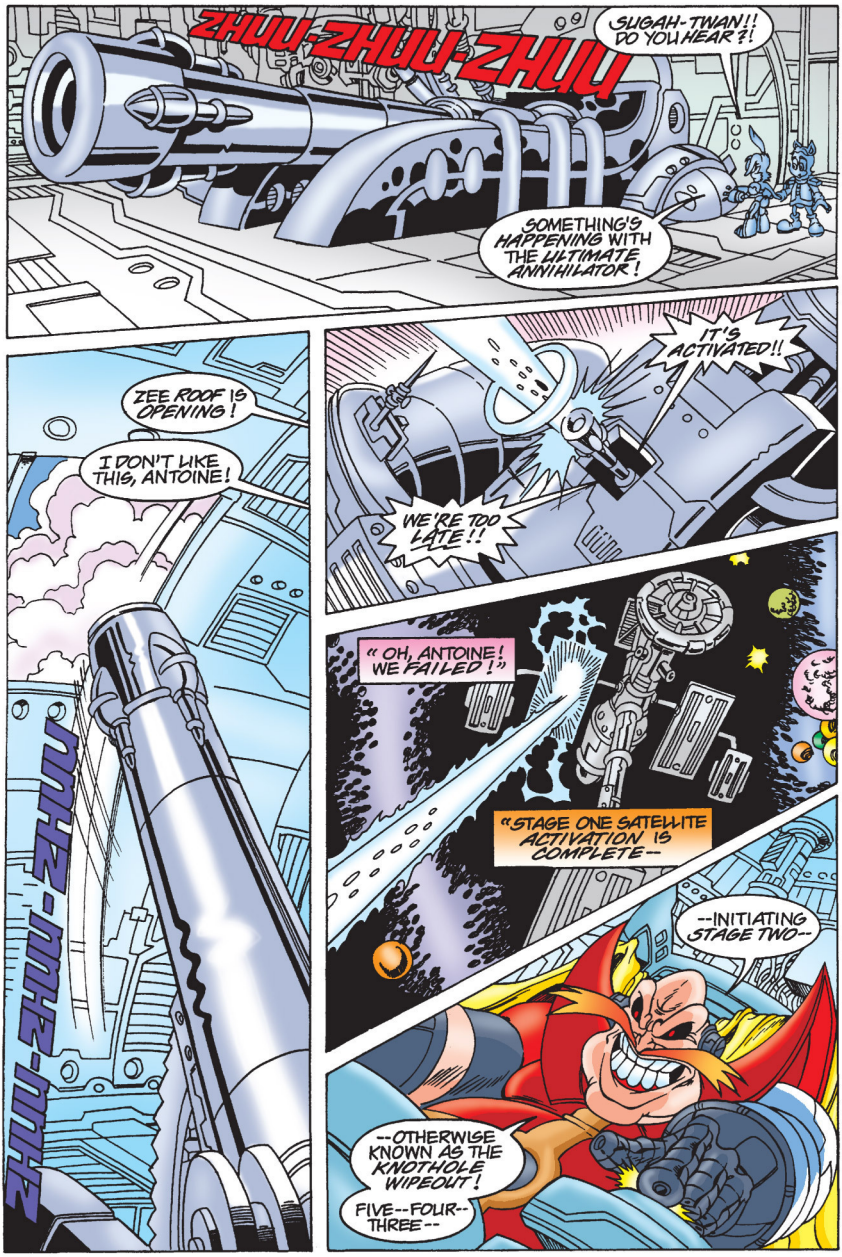

IT'S HIM! IT'S HIM! AFTER ALL WE'VE DONE, HE STILL WON'T GIVE UP!
"WE'LL JUST HAVE TO SEE ABOUT THAT!"
"LET ME TAKE CARE OF HIM... SIR."
IF I MODULATE THE FREQUENCY OF MY SPEED WHILE I RUN REAL FAST, ACCORDING TO UNCLE CHUCK'S THEORIES...
...I SHOULD BE ABLE TO CREATE AFTER-IMAGES OF MYSELF! ENOUGH TO MESS WITH ANY OPPONENT!

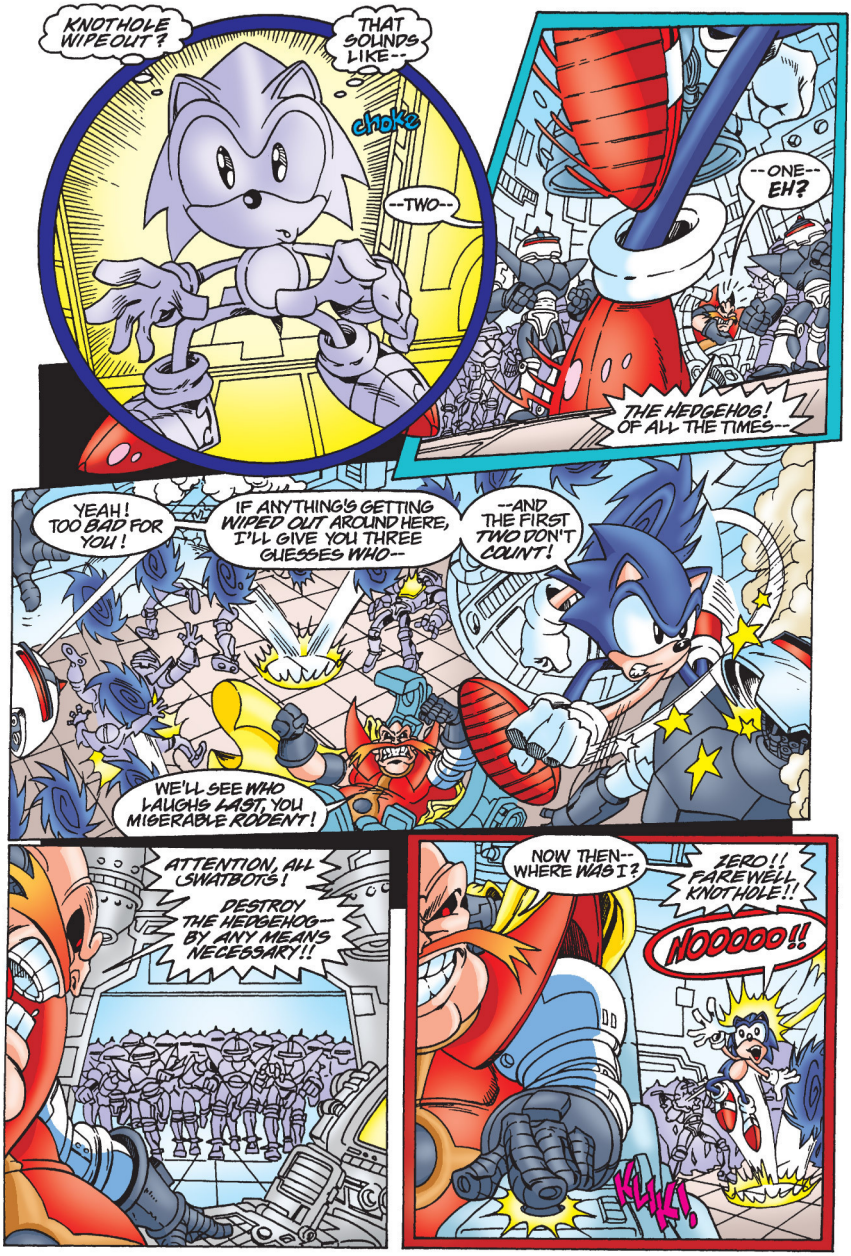

BLANG
KABLONG
BLONG
KABLOOGE
OUTTA MY WAY, SWATBOTS!
OH GOODY LOOK WHO'S COME TO PLAY!
SNIVELY.
HEDGEHOG... IF THIS IS THE LAST THING I EVER DO, I'LL SEE YOU NEVER MAKE IT INSIDE!
YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING, NEEDLE-NOSE...

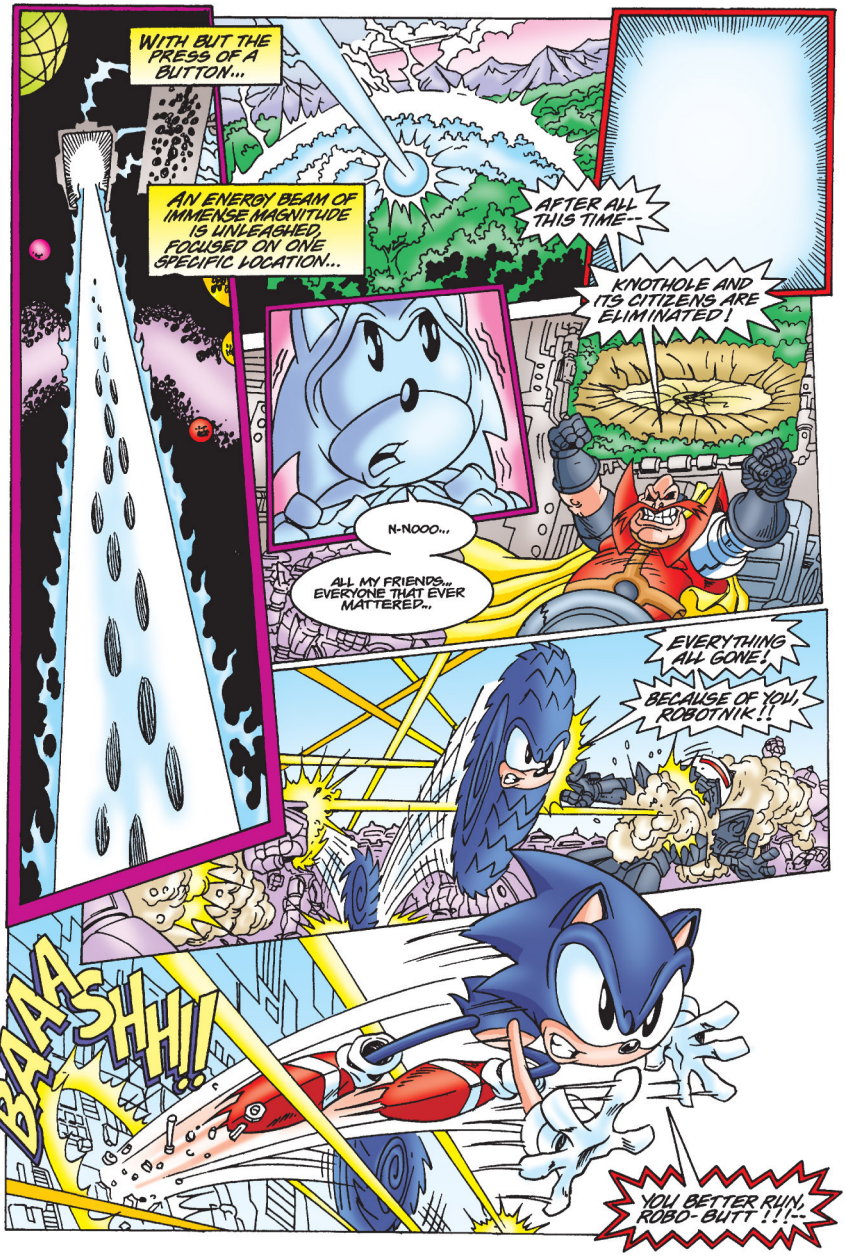

...THIS IS THE LAST THING YOU'LL EVER DO!
WOZZ
WOZZ
KOOK KOOK
CRUSH
Oh...THE HEEL BONE'S CONNECTED TO THE CHEST BONE!
CRACKK
OHH! OWW! YOU HURT MY STERNUM!
AHH HOOO!
LOOKS LIKE MY SIDE KICK SENT ROBOTNIK'S SIDE-KICK RIGHT DOWN THE DRAIN!
GOOD! NOW I CAN FOCUS MY ATTENTION ON... OOFF!
CLONK

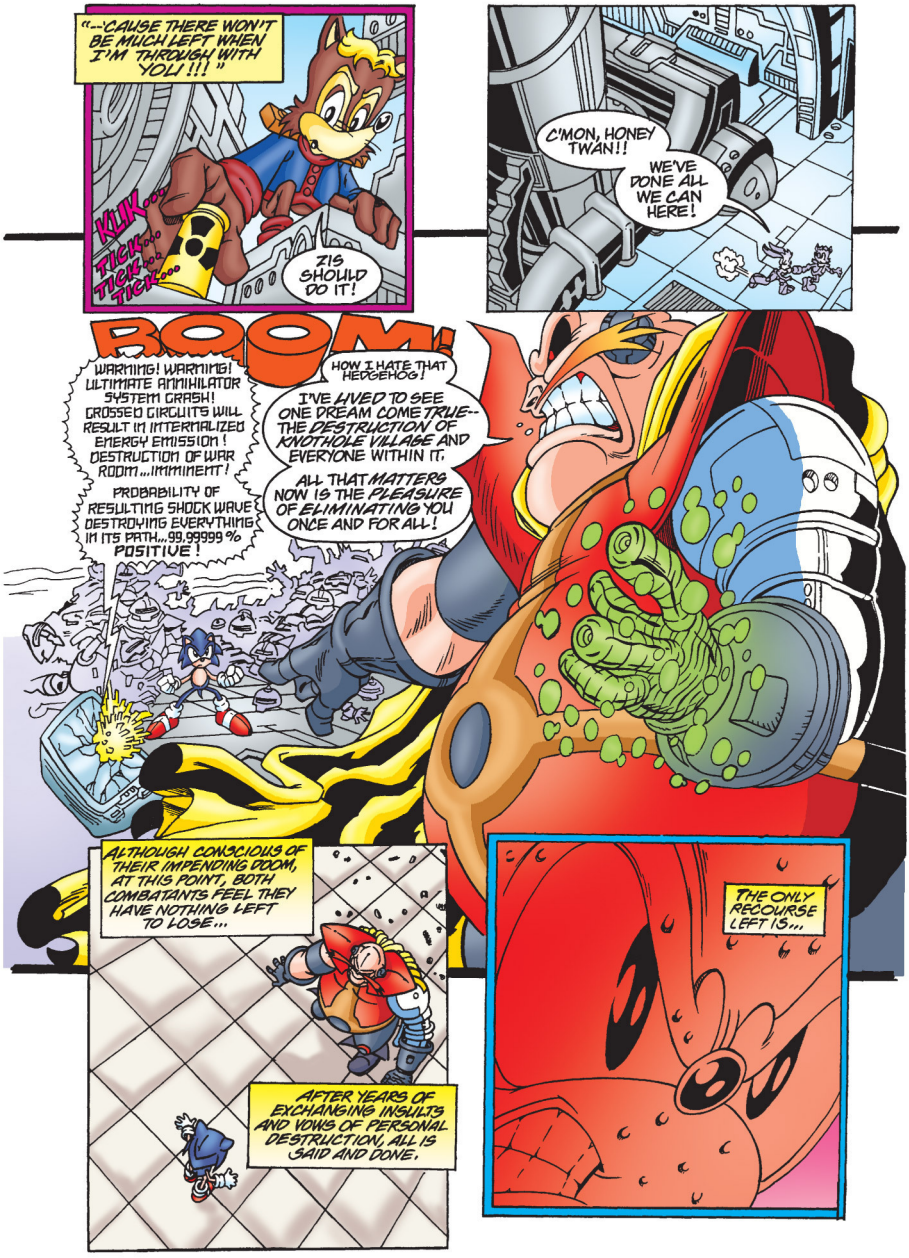

WHERE DID THAT BRICK WALL COME FROM ALL OF A SUDDEN?
FOR THE LUVVA-- ANTOINE!!! BUNNIE!!
HOW DID YOU GUYS GET HERE?!
SUGAH-SONIC!! WE WERE TRYIN' TO STOP OL' BLUBBER BOTTOM FROM WIPIN' OUT KNOTHOLE--
--BY PLACING ZEE BOMB TO SABOTAGE EES WEAPON!
ONCE WE PLANT ZIS WHERE EET WILL DO ZEE MOST DAMAGE, EET'LL BE SET TO DETONATE WITHIN 10 MINUTES TIME!
EEF WE DON'T MAKE IT OUT BEFORE ZEN, WELL...
NOBODY SAID WE'D LIVE FOREVER!
BESIDES, IF THAT'S THE PRICE FOR TAKING DOWN 'BUTT-NICK--
--LET'S DO IT TO IT!
SONIC!! WAIT!!
WHAIRE ARE YOU GOING?!
TO BUY YOU GUYS TIME!
BUT, SONIC--
NO "BUTS", BUNNIE.
YOU AND 'TWAN JUST MAKE SURE WHEN THAT DOOHICKEY OF YOURS BLOWS--


--OR IT'S REALLY GONNA BE THE BIG GOODBYE!
SONIC!
THIS WAY, MA CHERIE!
OUR FRIEND DOES WHAT HE MUST--
--AS WE SHOULD NOW DO SO!
IF WE CAN GET PAST THAT SWATBOT, SUGAH-TWAN!
MY DEAR BUNNIE--
--WHY NOT HIT HEEM WITH YOUR BEST SHOT?
WHAANG!
YOU'VE QUITE A LEFT HOOK, DARLING!
NOW TO DO ZEE SAME TO ZEE REST OF ZIS PLACE!
IN ZAIRE!

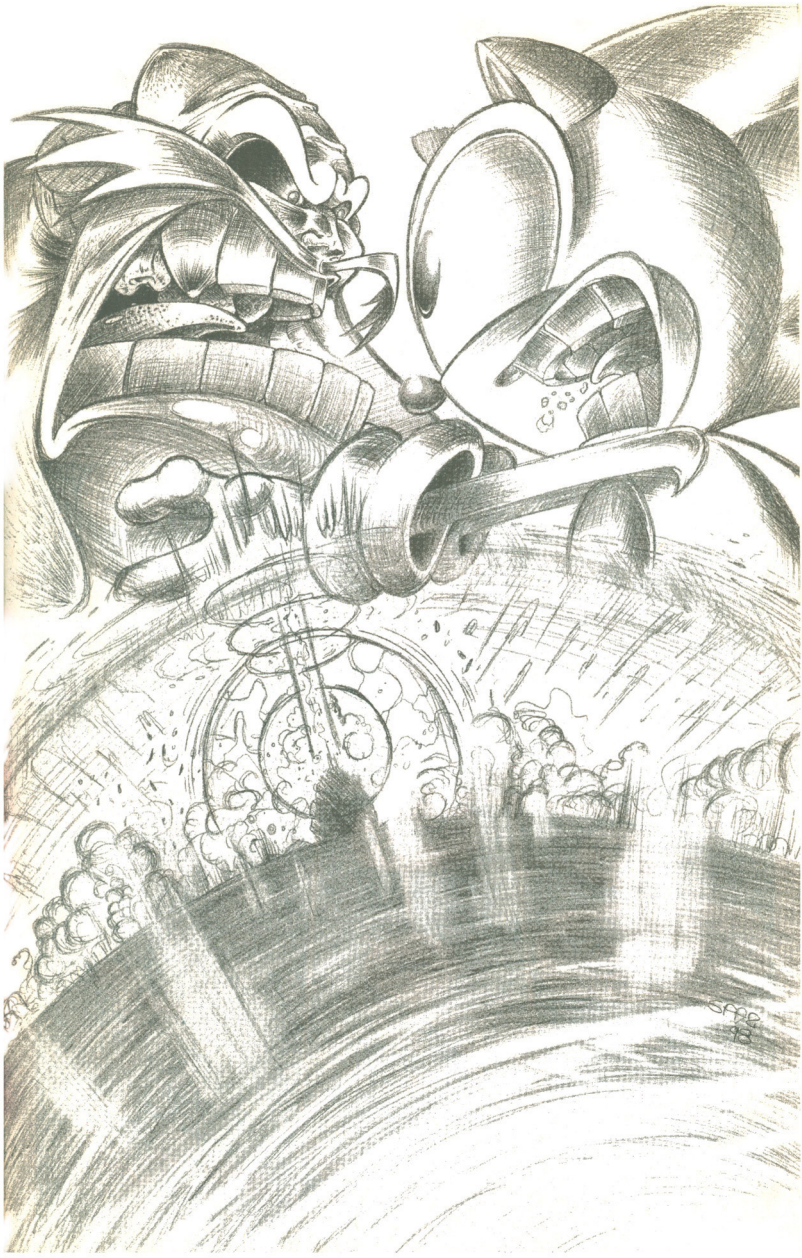

ZHUU-ZHUU-ZHUU
SUGAH-TWAN!! DO YOU HEAR?!
SOMETHING'S HAPPENING WITH THE ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR!
ZEE ROOF IS OPENING!
I DON'T LIKE THIS, ANTOINE!
ZHUU-ZHUU-ZHUU
IT'S ACTIVATED!!
WE'RE TOO LATE!!
"OH, ANTOINE! WE FAILED!"
"STAGE ONE SATELLITE ACTIVATION IS COMPLETE--
--INITIATING STAGE TWO--
--OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE KNOTHOLE WIPEOUT!
FIVE--FOUR--THREE--

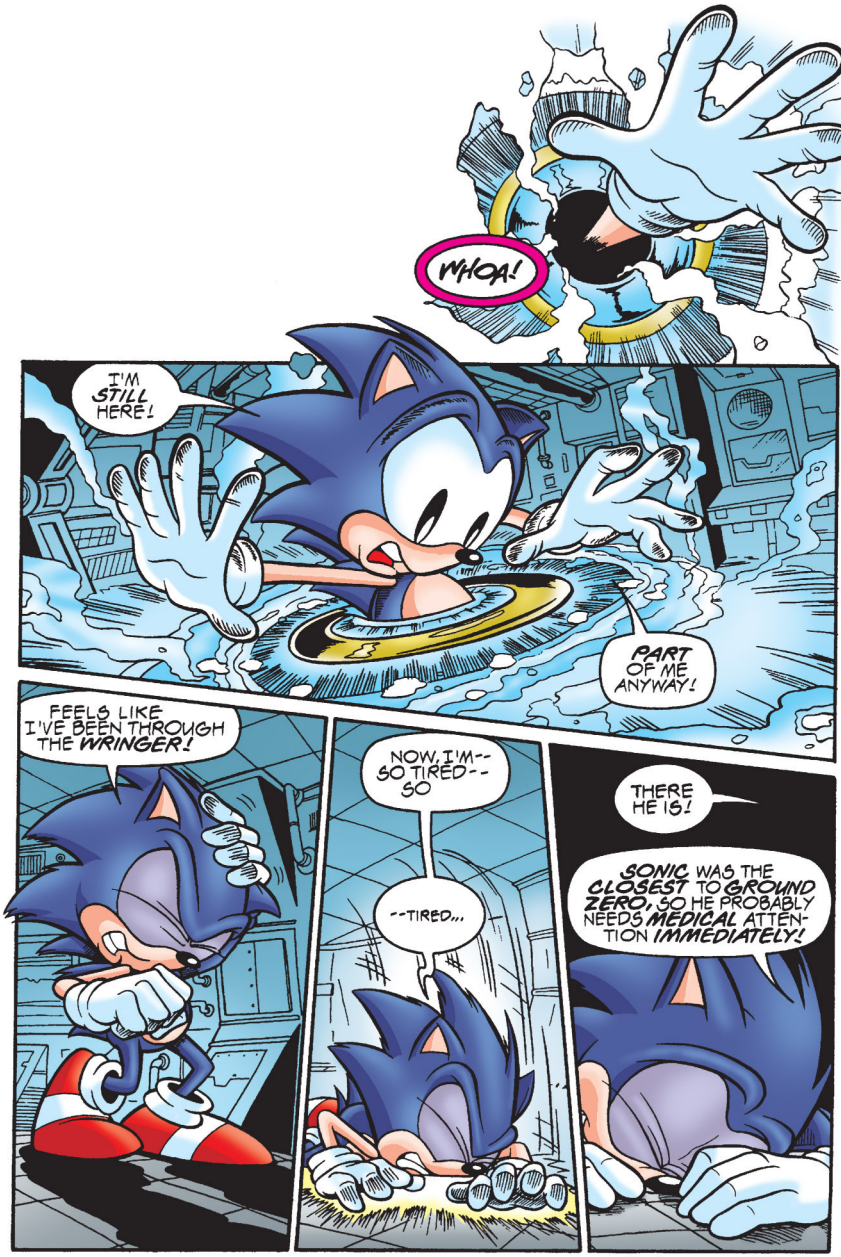

KNOTHOLE WIPEOUT?
THAT SOUNDS LIKE--
choke
--TWO--
--ONE-- EH?
THE HEDGEHOG! OF ALL THE TIMES--
YEAH! TOO BAD FOR YOU!
IF ANYTHING'S GETTING WIPED OUT AROUND HERE, I'LL GIVE YOU THREE GUESSES WHO--
--AND THE FIRST TWO DON'T COUNT!
WE'LL SEE WHO LAUGHS LAST, YOU MISERABLE RODENT!
ATTENTION, ALL SWATBOTS! DESTROY THE HEDGEHOG-- BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY!!
NOW THEN-- WHERE WAS I?
ZERO!! FAREWELL KNOTHOLE!!
NOOOOO!!
KLIK!

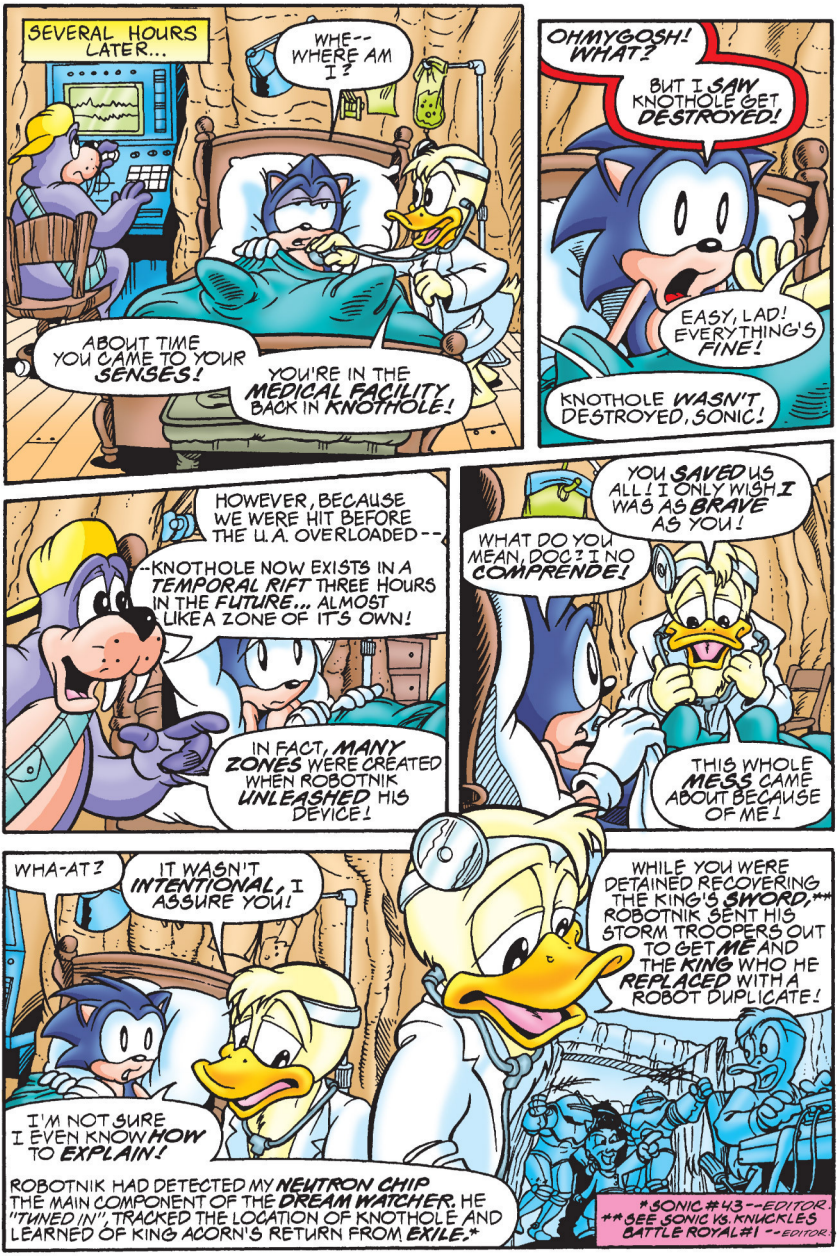

WITH BUT THE PRESS OF A BUTTON...
AN ENERGY BEAM OF IMMENSE MAGNITUDE IS UNLEASHED, FOCUSED ON ONE SPECIFIC LOCATION...
AFTER ALL THIS TIME--
KNOTHOLE AND ITS CITIZENS ARE ELIMINATED!
N-NOOO...
ALL MY FRIENDS... EVERYONE THAT EVER MATTERED...
EVERYTHING ALL GONE!
BECAUSE OF YOU, ROBOTNIK!!
BAAA
SHH!!
YOU BETTER RUN, ROBO-BUTT!!!--

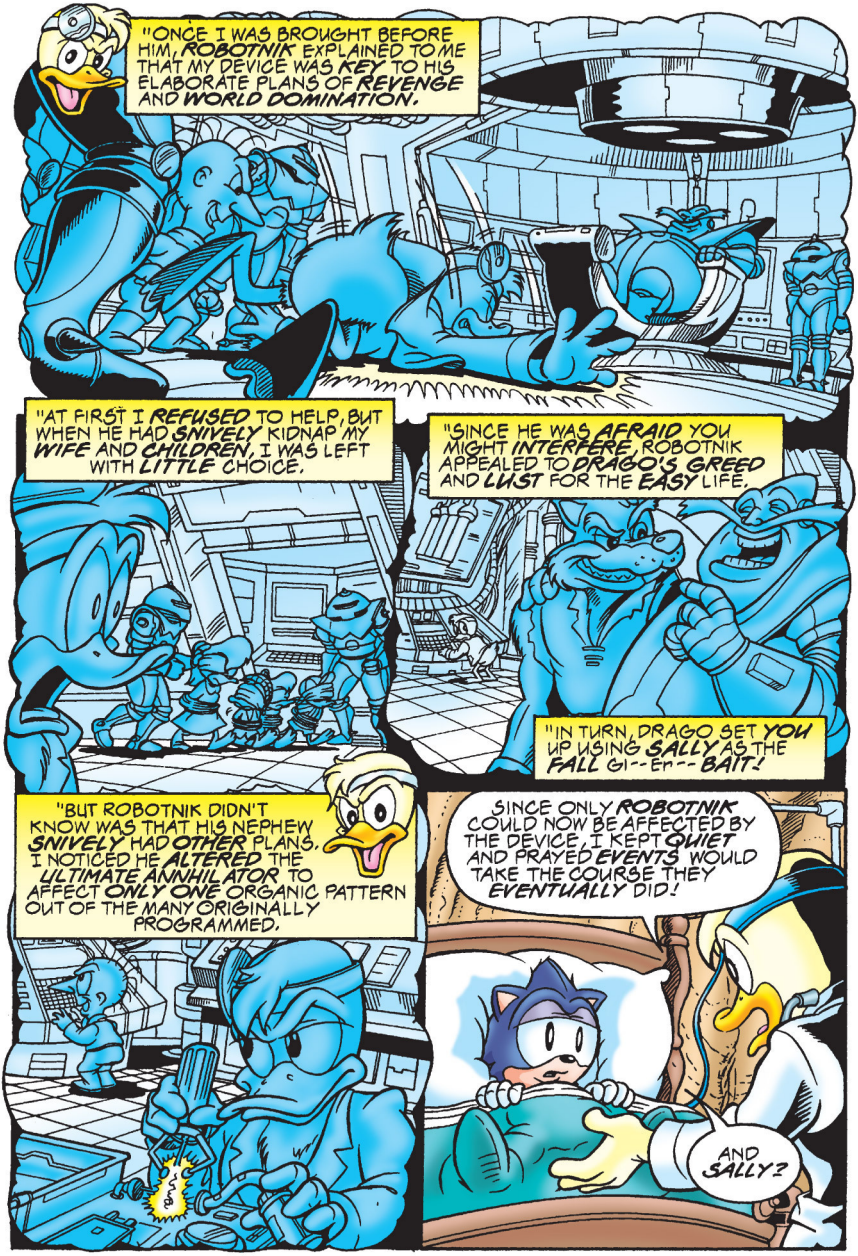

"...'CAUSE THERE WON'T BE MUCH LEFT WHEN I'M THROUGH WITH YOU!!!"
KLIK...
TICK...
TICK...
TICK...
ZIS SHOULD DO IT!
C'MON, HONEY TWAN!!
WE'VE DONE ALL WE CAN HERE!
BOOM!
WARNING! WARNING! ULTIMATE ANNIHILATOR SYSTEM CRASH! CROSSED CIRCUITS WILL RESULT IN INTERNALIZED ENERGY EMISSION! DESTRUCTION OF WAR ROOM...IMMINENT! PROBABILITY OF RESULTING SHOCK WAVE DESTROYING EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH...99.99999% POSITIVE!
HOW I HATE THAT HEDGEHOG!
I'VE LIVED TO SEE ONE DREAM COME TRUE-- THE DESTRUCTION OF KNOTHOLE VILLAGE AND EVERYONE WITHIN IT.
ALL THAT MATTERS NOW IS THE PLEASURE OF ELIMINATING YOU ONCE AND FOR ALL!
ALTHOUGH CONSCIOUS OF THEIR IMPENDING DOOM, AT THIS POINT, BOTH COMBATANTS FEEL THEY HAVE NOTHING LEFT TO LOSE...
AFTER YEARS OF EXCHANGING INSULTS AND VOWS OF PERSONAL DESTRUCTION, ALL IS SAID AND DONE.
THE ONLY RECOURSE LEFT IS...

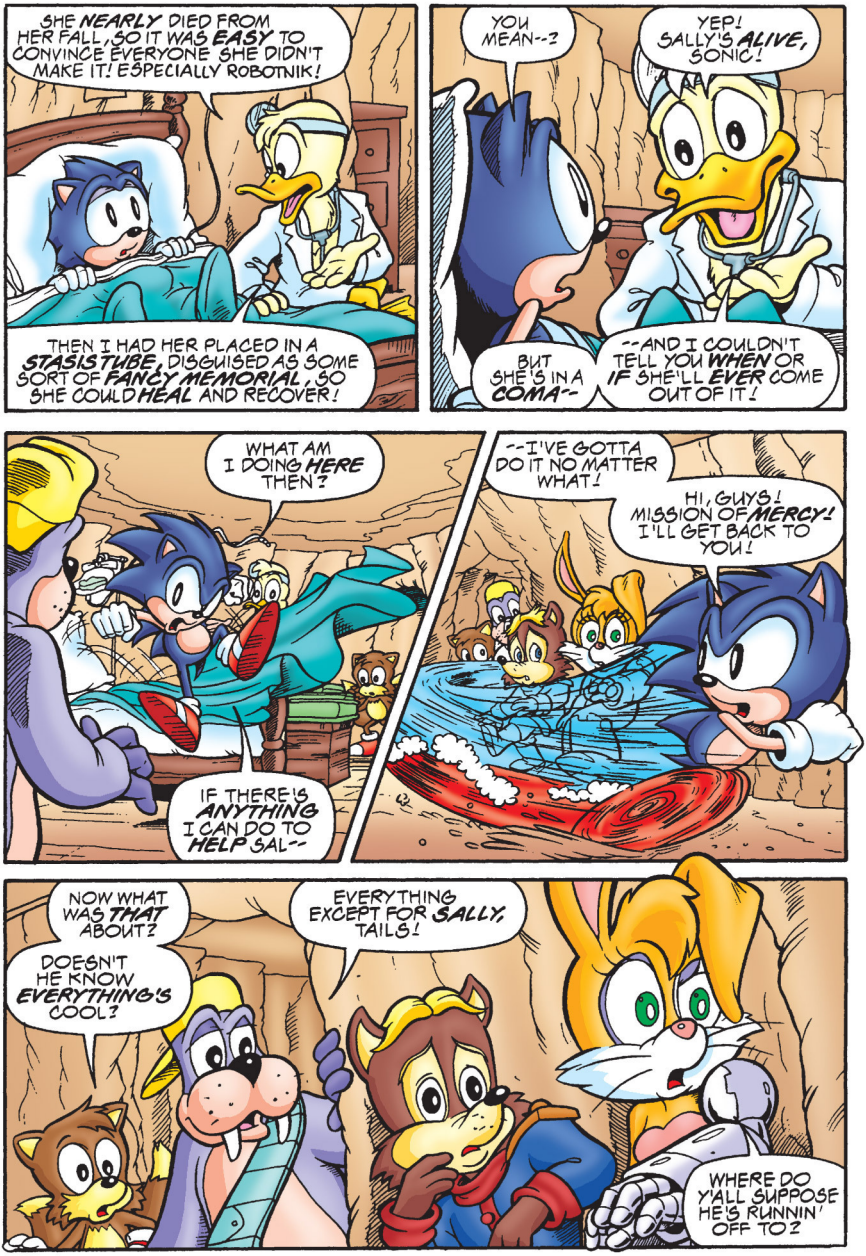
WHOOP

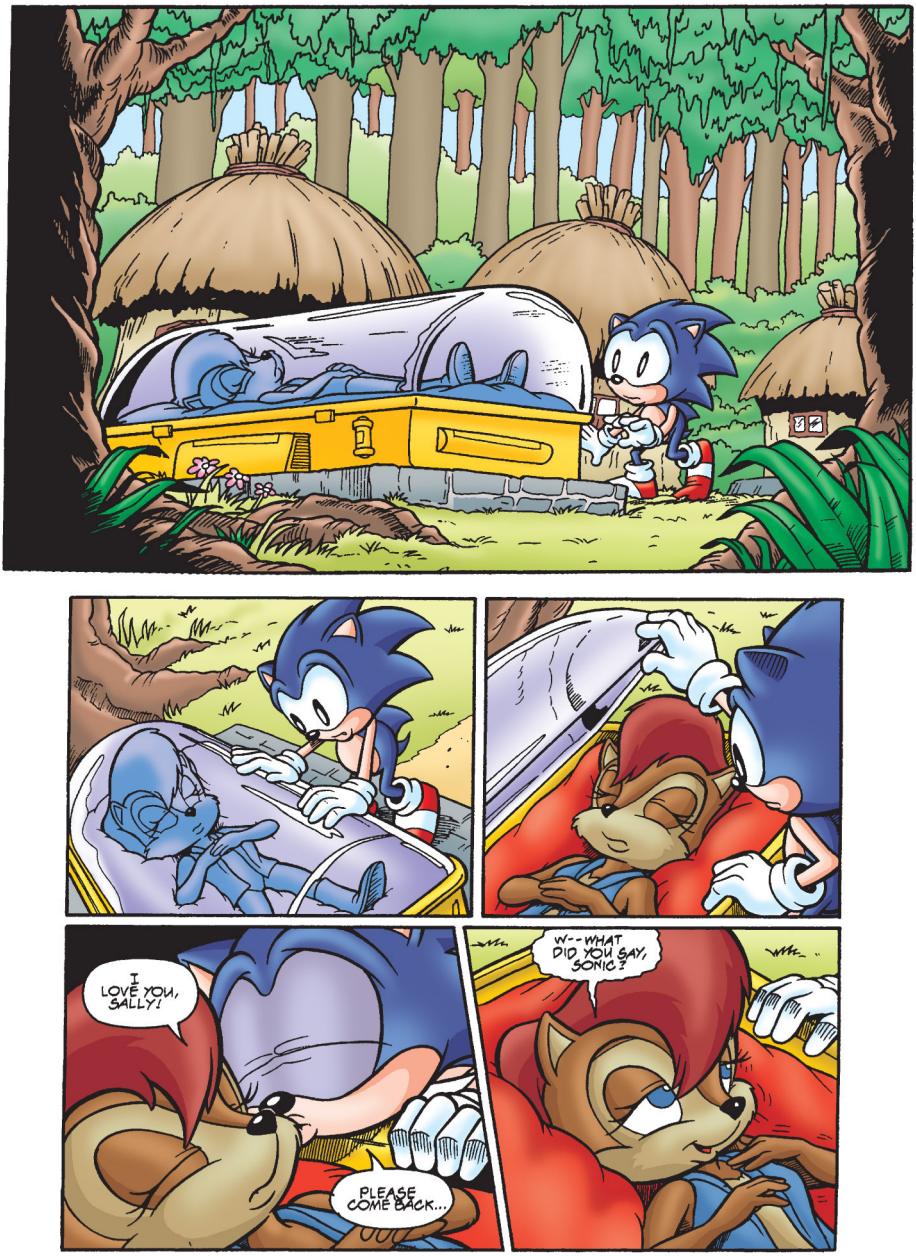


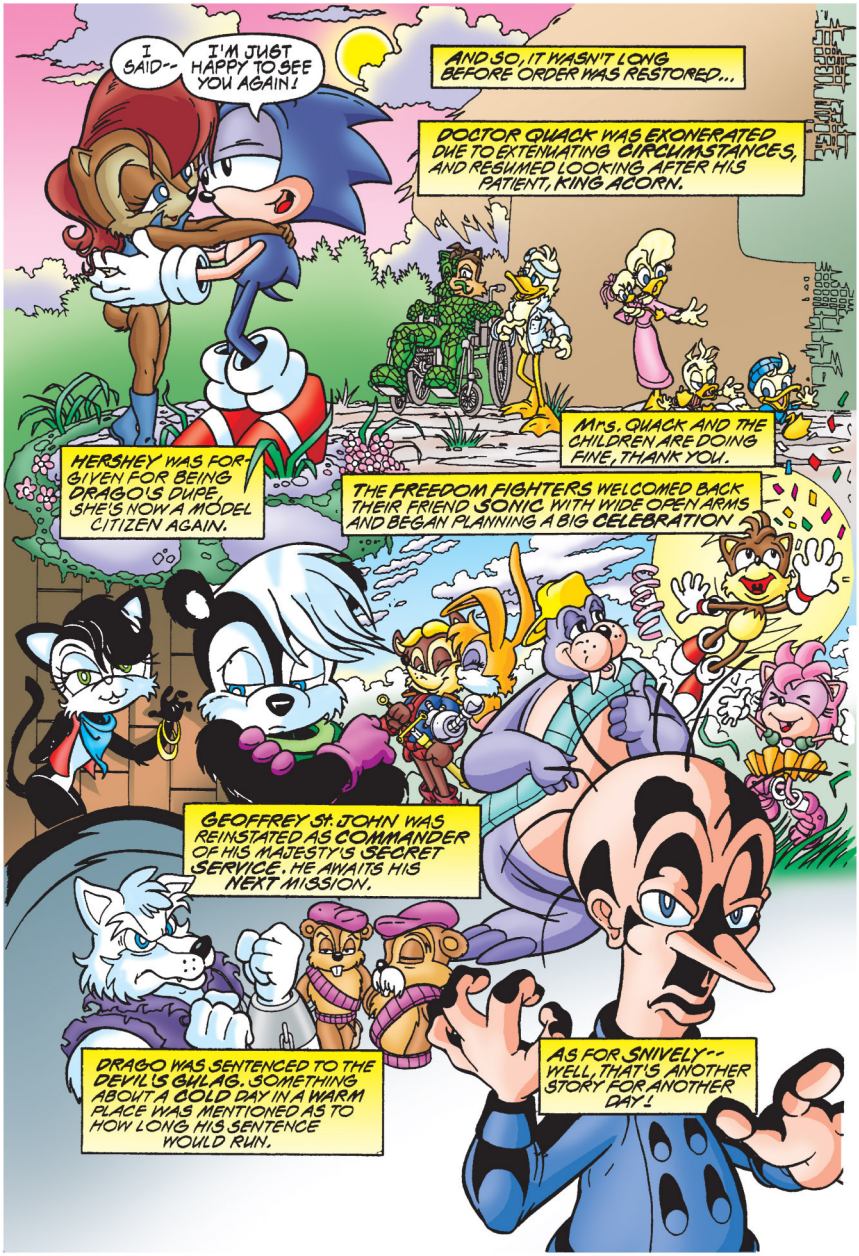

WHOA!
I'M STILL HERE!
PART OF ME ANYWAY!
FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN THROUGH THE WRINGER!
NOW, I'M-- SO TIRED-- SO
--TIRED...
THERE HE IS!
SONIC WAS THE CLOSEST TO GROUND ZERO, SO HE PROBABLY NEEDS MEDICAL ATTENTION IMMEDIATELY!


SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
WHE-- WHERE AM I?
ABOUT TIME YOU CAME TO YOUR SENSES!
YOU'RE IN THE MEDICAL FACILITY BACK IN KNOTHOLE!
OHMYGOSH! WHAT?
BUT I SAW KNOTHOLE GET DESTROYED!
EASY, LAD! EVERYTHING'S FINE!
KNOTHOLE WASN'T DESTROYED, SONIC!
HOWEVER, BECAUSE WE WERE HIT BEFORE THE U.A. OVERLOADED--
--KNOTHOLE NOW EXISTS IN A TEMPORAL RIFT THREE HOURS IN THE FUTURE... ALMOST LIKE A ZONE OF IT'S OWN!
IN FACT, MANY ZONES WERE CREATED WHEN ROBOTNIK UNLEASHED HIS DEVICE!
YOU SAVED US ALL! I ONLY WISH I WAS AS BRAVE AS YOU!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, DOC? I NO COMPRENDE!
THIS WHOLE MESS CAME ABOUT BECAUSE OF ME!
WHA-AT?
IT WASN'T INTENTIONAL, I ASSURE YOU!
I'M NOT SURE I EVEN KNOW HOW TO EXPLAIN!
ROBOTNIK HAD DETECTED MY NEUTRON CHIP THE MAIN COMPONENT OF THE DREAM WATCHER. HE "TUNED IN", TRACKED THE LOCATION OF KNOTHOLE AND LEARNED OF KING ACORN'S RETURN FROM EXILE.*
WHILE YOU WERE DETAINED RECOVERING THE KING'S SWORD,** ROBOTNIK SENT HIS STORM TROOPERS OUT TO GET ME AND THE KING WHO HE REPLACED WITH A ROBOT DUPLICATE!
* SONIC #43 --EDITOR.
** SEE SONIC VS. KNUCKLES BATTLE ROYAL #1 --EDITOR.


"ONCE I WAS BROUGHT BEFORE HIM, ROBOTNIK EXPLAINED TO ME THAT MY DEVICE WAS KEY TO HIS ELABORATE PLANS OF REVENGE AND WORLD DOMINATION.
"AT FIRST I REFUSED TO HELP, BUT WHEN HE HAD SNIVELY KIDNAP MY WIFE AND CHILDREN, I WAS LEFT WITH LITTLE CHOICE.
"SINCE HE WAS AFRAID YOU MIGHT INTERFERE, ROBOTNIK APPEALED TO DRAGO'S GREED AND LUST FOR THE EASY LIFE.
"IN TURN, DRAGO SET YOU UP USING SALLY AS THE FALL GI--EN-- BAIT!
"BUT ROBOTNIK DIDN'T KNOW WAS THAT HIS NEPHEW SNIVELY HAD OTHER PLANS. I NOTICED HE ALTERED THE ULTIMATE ANNHILATOR TO AFFECT ONLY ONE ORGANIC PATTERN OUT OF THE MANY ORIGINALLY PROGRAMMED.
SINCE ONLY ROBOTNIK COULD NOW BE AFFECTED BY THE DEVICE, I KEPT QUIET AND PRAYED EVENTS WOULD TAKE THE COURSE THEY EVENTUALLY DID!
AND SALLY?


SHE NEARLY DIED FROM HER FALL, SO IT WAS EASY TO CONVINCE EVERYONE SHE DIDN'T MAKE IT! ESPECIALLY ROBOTNIK!
THEN I HAD HER PLACED IN A STASIS TUBE, DISGUISED AS SOME SORT OF FANCY MEMORIAL, SO SHE COULD HEAL AND RECOVER!
YOU MEAN--?
YEP! SALLY'S ALIVE, SONIC!
BUT SHE'S IN A COMA--
--AND I COULDN'T TELL YOU WHEN OR IF SHE'LL EVER COME OUT OF IT!
WHAT AM I DOING HERE THEN?
IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP SAL--
--I'VE GOTTA DO IT NO MATTER WHAT!
HI, GUYS! MISSION OF MERCY! I'LL GET BACK TO YOU!
NOW WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
DOESN'T HE KNOW EVERYTHING'S COOL?
EVERYTHING EXCEPT FOR SALLY, TAILS!
WHERE DO Y'ALL SUPPOSE HE'S RUNNIN' OFF TO?


I LOVE YOU, SALLY!
PLEASE COME BACK...
W--WHAT DID YOU SAY, SONIC?


I SAID--
I'M JUST HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
AND SO, IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE ORDER WAS RESTORED...
DOCTOR QUACK WAS EXONERATED DUE TO EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES, AND RESUMED LOOKING AFTER HIS PATIENT, KING ACORN.
Mrs. QUACK AND THE CHILDREN ARE DOING FINE, THANK YOU.
HERSHEY WAS FORGIVEN FOR BEING DRAGO'S DUPE. SHE'S NOW A MODEL CITIZEN AGAIN.
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS WELCOMED BACK THEIR FRIEND SONIC WITH WIDE OPEN ARMS AND BEGAN PLANNING A BIG CELEBRATION.
GEOFFREY St. JOHN WAS REINSTATED AS COMMANDER OF HIS MAJESTY'S SECRET SERVICE. HE AWAITS HIS NEXT MISSION.
DRAGO WAS SENTENCED TO THE DEVIL'S GULAG. SOMETHING ABOUT A COLD DAY IN A WARM PLACE WAS MENTIONED AS TO HOW LONG HIS SENTENCE WOULD RUN.
AS FOR SNIVELY-- WELL, THAT'S ANOTHER STORY FOR ANOTHER DAY!